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FARM AND FIRESIDE

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COMMENT

CLOSING OF THE DOT CONTEST

Our readers will find the result of the Dot Contest announced on pages 16 and 17 of this number.

THE CAMPBELL METHOD OF SOIL CULTURE

By many experiments during the past few years the great value of the Campbell method of soil culture has been demonstrated. Some of its results have been marvelous. Indeed, it is possible by its use to carry on general farming in regions of very light annual rainfall. But its principles have a much wider application than to the "short-grass country."

In "The Industrialist" Prof. H. M. Cotrell, formerly of the Kansas Agricultural College, describes the method as follows:

"The Campbell method of soil culture is the practical application made of well-known principles of conservation of moisture. As early in the spring as the ground can be worked, and immediately after each crop is removed, Mr. Campbell pulverizes the top four inches of soil as finely as possible with a disk-harrow. This finely fitted surface-soil is turned down into the bottom of a furrow six or seven inches deep. In summer the disking is done the same day the crop is removed, if possible. The land is plowed as soon as convenient after disking. The plow is followed with an implement called the subsurface-packer, which consists of a series of wheels mounted on a shaft. The wheels are about thirty inches in diameter, and are placed six inches apart on the shaft. The rims of the wheels are sharp, so that they press and cut the ground, and a six-foot machine is weighted to nearly a ton. The land is packed the same day it is plowed, and when practicable each half-day's plowing is packed as soon as it is plowed.

"The packer leaves the soil firm at the bottom of the furrow and loose at the top. The firming of the bottom soil makes a good connection with the subsoil, and puts the soil in such condition that the water in the subsoil is brought up by capillary action to the soil in which the roots grow. The loose surface-soil as left by the packer forms a dust mulch that prevents the evaporation of the moisture from the surface. Throughout the season after every rain the ground is harrowed, in order to maintain the mulch.

"Mr. Campbell insists that four conditions must exist to secure a good crop: Good depth of plowing, to increase the moisture reservoir; a thoroughly fined and compact subsurface, to form a seed-bed; a constant soil-mulch, to prevent evaporation of moisture; and undisturbed roots. During the growing-season he cultivates every four to ten days with all crops, insisting on shallow cultivation—cultivation so shallow that the roots will not be disturbed."

A MODEL STATE FAIR

Some of the good reasons for the great success and high reputation of the Ohio State Fair are given by Mr. Joseph E. Wing in "The Breeder's Gazette," as follows:

"What is the purpose of a state fair? Is it to encourage breeders of animals and growers of crops to do well and bring for reward their best? Is it to show the people what the best is like, that they may go and do likewise in their own endeavors? Is it to make a meeting-place, a great picnic-ground and outing-day for the country people? Or is it to be a great money-making affair, with huge crowds, huge receipts, hosts of bawling fakirs and lewd exhibits, with gambling and debauchery openly preached to the young men and boys of the country?

"In all that constitutes true greatness in a state fair—beautiful grounds that are the result of years of patient work and care, imposing buildings that show the exhibits of live stock admirably and keep the animals in perfect comfort, great exhibitions of animals in nearly all classes, and a great meeting together of country people—the Ohio State Fair may well be a model type. It is strong in what it has. It is stronger, in contrast to other state fairs, in what it has not. There was one side-show on the grounds, but in an out-of-the-way place where it did not distract the attention from the real sights, and it was a clean and good show of wild animals. There was not a bawling fakir nor a sleek 'grafter' in all that throng of people. Nor did I hear of an arrest nor see an intoxicated man."

COMPARATIVE OUTPUT OF THE TRUSTS

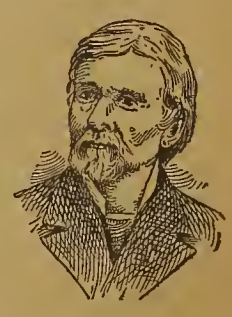
Reviewing the special inquiry of the census on the output of the trusts Mr. Wilial E. Curtis says:

"Contrary to the popular impression, the recent census has disclosed the fact that only a small portion of the products of the manufacturing industries of this country are produced and controlled by the trusts. The value of the total output of all manufacturing establishments during the last year was $13,004,400,143, while the share of the trusts was $1,667,350,941, or 12.8 per cent of the whole.

"Of course, the most important item to be considered in this connection is the public-food supply. The inquiry embraced every branch of that industry in which labor is a factor after the product has reached marketable condition. Purely agricultural supplies were not included, neither grains, vegetables or meats in their natural state; but from the census point of view a steer becomes a manufactured article when it is slaughtered, a bushel of wheat when it is ground into flour, and fruit and vegetables when they are preserved or otherwise prepared for the market by artificial means. The results of the inquiry in this direction will be a surprise, because of a total value of $2,277,702,010 only $285,941,066, or 12.6 per cent, of the food of the people is controlled by the trusts."

AFFAIRS OF NOTE AND MEN OF MARK

General Franz Sigel, one of the most popular heroes of the Civil War, died in New York August 21, 1902. This distinguished German-American citizen and soldier was born in Sinsheim, Baden, November 18, 1824. He was educated for the military service, and took a prominent part in the German revolution in 1848 and 1849. In 1852 he came to the United States, was a school-teacher in New York until 1857, and a college professor in St. Louis until 1861, when he became colonel of the Third Missouri Volunteers. The capture of Camp Jackson and the victory at Carthage saved Missouri to the Union, and gained for him the rank of brigadier-general. He served under Fremont in Missouri, and under Pope and Burnside in the Virginias. His successful defense of Maryland Heights in 1864 with four thousand against fifteen thousand men added much to his fame.



William Deering, the pioneer manufacturer of the twine-binder, and the founder of one of the five companies recently combined into the International Harvester Company, was born in 1826 in Oxford County, Maine. On graduating from the Readfield High School he went to work in his father's woolen-mill, and on reaching his majority became its superintendent. Late in the sixties he became interested in the Marsh harvester. In 1873 his partner's illness turned this side investment into the occupation of his life. Mr. Deering was a busy man during the development-period of the automatic self-binder, and in 1878 put into the field several Marsh harvesters equipped with twine-binding attachments. By 1880 the superiority of the twine-binder was established, and then followed the gradual development in Chicago of one of the largest manufacturing-plants in the world.

Of Philander C. Knox, Attorney-General of the United States, who will be much in the public eye on account of trust litigation, Mr. Coolidge in "McClure's" says: "He is a dapper bit of a man, a tiny figure charged with life, quick-stepping, alert and nervous, with a smooth-shaven, clean-cut face, boyish except for lines of strength and the denuded forehead soaring high above the eyes. Certain Wall Street magnates have called him a country lawyer. The description hardly fits. He hails from Pittsburg, the very home of concentrated wealth, about the last place one would look for a countryman to attack capital in pure wantonness. But he isn't afraid of Wall Street."

One of the striking personalities now in public life is Mayor Tom L. Johnson, of Cleveland, Ohio. A few years ago this great steel manufacturer became a zealous convert to the single-tax doctrine and a warm advocate of the nationalization of great industries, and entered politics. In 1901 he was elected mayor of Cleveland; now he is being "favorably mentioned" as the Democratic presidential candidate in 1904. Being a multi-millionaire and a man of tact and ability, Mr. Johnson is abundantly able to gratify his tastes in the way of controlling conventions and conducting a spectacular political campaign, and is now touring the state with a big circus-tent and a "red demon" automobile, holding meetings for the November election and making himself personally known to his fellow-citizens of Ohio.

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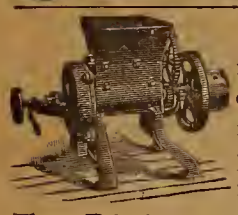

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Mr. Greiner Says:

PROFITABLE POULTRY.—The principle "good pay for good work" applies to poultry and poultry-keeping. Good work in egg-laying is the only work that will pay the employer, the poultry-owner. Good work—in other words, plenty of eggs—is what the owner must secure from his flock at any cost. In the first place he must keep no birds except those capable of doing good work; and next, he must expect to give them good pay in care and feed. It may do to keep a dozen hens mostly on table-scraps and as scavengers generally, and thus almost without expense and with comparatively large profits, but it takes a lot of feed and care when you keep hens in large numbers. To refuse such good pay would be poor economy, and only result in poor and (to the owner) unprofitable work. Cornell's henman (Henry H. Wing) gives in Bulletin 204 of the experiment station connected with Cornell University, just issued, the results of experiments made by him in that line. He places the average cost of feeding one hundred hens for the seventeen weeks from December 1st to March 29th at $32.43. The returns for eggs during this time was $56.36, leaving an average excess of production over cost of food for seventeen weeks of $23.93 for one hundred fowls. The egg-production of pullets during this time was notably in excess of that of hens, particularly in the earlier periods, when the price of eggs was highest, pullets averaging 28.3 eggs for one hundred fowls a day, and hens only 15.4 eggs. The work I expect from my flock of young fowls, largely capons, at this time of the year is growth of body. To get it I have to feed even heavier than represented by the above figure of $32.43 for one hundred fowls in the seventeen weeks.

THE HOME TRADE.—"Patronize your home trade" is usually the plea of the country merchant, who takes a great deal of credit for the fact that he sells goods on credit, and that he often carries his customer, when crops are poor or money scarce, from year to year without clamoring all the time for his cash. I believe that in a general way buying goods on credit is a losing game, and only to be resorted to in an extreme emergency and when means to make early payment are in sight.

"The Northwestern Agriculturist," disputing all especial claims of the country merchant to preference by country buyers, says: "We believe the farmers of to-day are tyrannized over by the country merchants to a far worse extent than they realize. . . . Groceries cost from fifty to three hundred per cent more in country stores than in the cities. For instance, a better grade of tea can be bought at any of the large stores in Minneapolis for thirty-eight cents than is sold for sixty to eighty cents in the country. Ordinarily cotton thread sells for five cents a spool in the country and three cents in the city. . . . On the other hand, farmers who sell their grain, hay, garden-truck, butter or eggs to the country storekeeper find to their sorrow that prices paid are far below the city market."

There is a good big kernel of truth in these possibly somewhat exaggerated statements. I know of some country merchants who consider the farmer, especially when the latter wants to buy on credit until his crops are ready for marketing, the goose which they can pluck at will. I believe in reciprocity. If the country merchant wants the farmer to treat him right, by "patronizing home trade," he must treat the farmer right by selling to him at reasonable prices, and also paying him reasonable prices for his butter, eggs and other products. There is no need of antagonism between country merchant and farmer. Both will get along better by trying to help one another than by trying to "skin" one another. The country merchant, you may be sure, will not take my butter, eggs, onions, potatoes, etc., unless I am willing to sell these things to him as cheap as, or cheaper than, what he can buy them for in the city market. I try to buy where I can do so to the best advantage. As a principle the cry "Patronize your home trade" is a failure.

WHY BE SICK?—"If you are suffering from physical ills, ask yourself if it is not your own fault," says Ella Wheeler Wilcox. I am not critic enough to judge of the literary value of Ella's writings. It seems plain to me, however, that the great popularity she has achieved is due more to the vein of strong common sense running through much of what she says than to her power or elegance of expression. It is just for this plain good sense that I love to read her current contributions to the press. The foregoing quotation is from one of her latest efforts. She continues: "There is scarcely one person in one hundred who does not overeat or overdrink. I know an entire family who complain of gastric troubles, yet who keep the coffee-pot continually on the range, and drink large quantities of that beverage at least twice a day. No one can be well who does that. Almost every human ailment can be traced to foolish diet." A person cannot be happy and contented with a deranged stomach; cannot have good digestion unless he lives on good, wholesome food taken in moderate quantities. Coffee and tea especially are poisons when taken in large doses. I know whereof I speak. I have quit the coffee and tea drinking habit, using these beverages only on rare occasions, and confining myself mostly to cereal drinks, and my whole being seems to be changed for the better. I have no more stomach troubles, no more sick-headaches, no troubles in any of my bodily functions unless I commit gross errors in diet otherwise. Indeed, I don't believe it is necessary to be sick. Ella's recipe for bodily ailments is as follows: "Eat only two meals in twenty-four hours. If you are not engaged in active physical labor, make it one meal. Drink two or three or four quarts of milk at intervals during the day, to supply good blood to the system. You will thrive upon it, and you will not miss the other two meals after the first week. And your ailment will gradually disappear."

Mr. Grundy Says:

RURAL FREE DELIVERY of mail and the telephone are now within the reach of almost every farmer, and they bring him into as close touch with the world as is the townsman, and the necessity for removing to town to obtain these conveniences no longer exists. What the farmer should now try to do is to make his home as attractive as that of the villager in equal circumstances. He can easily do this, and more, because he is surrounded by better conditions, and his expenses are not so great. When the farmer decides that his farm is a good enough place on which to spend all his days, and he no longer has a price on it, he will make of it a home that his boys and girls will not want to leave at the first opportunity. He will make of it a home that will be the best-beloved spot on all the earth.

QUAIL.—Along the hedge back of my corn-field a pair of quail reared a covey numbering about twenty. From early in the spring up to about two weeks ago the cock bird would hop up on a fence-post every morning and evening, and call "Bob White" for an hour at a time. During the past two weeks stray "bird-dogs" and hounds from town have been scouring the fields for game, and I suppose they have frightened my little flock of insect-destroyers off the place. In a few more weeks brave hunters armed with repeating shot-guns will find them and valiantly shoot them out of existence. I have found the quail to be one of the most useful birds one can have on a farm. It is perfectly harmless, and as an insect-destroyer is without an equal. Every farmer should do all in his power to protect this bird.

PARCELS-POST SYSTEM.—For several years the post-office department of Great Britain has been trying to effect a parcels-post arrangement with this country, by means of which parcels of merchandise weighing up to six pounds can be sent to any part of either country for twenty-four cents, and from seven to eleven pounds for seventy-two cents, but has been unable to do so. Now it has arranged with the American Express Company to deliver such parcels for a portion of the revenue. At our rates of postage it would cost ninety-six cents to send the smallest of these packages through our mails. The seedsmen, department stores, and all who do a large mail-order business, have for years been trying to have a parcels-post system adopted by this country, but so far have failed, chiefly because they have received no support from those who would be most benefited by it. Every farmer should make it a point to speak to his congressman about this matter now. He is working for votes, and now is the time to talk to him.

BEAUTIFYING FARM HOMES.—One great mistake thousands of farmers make is in not beautifying their homes and making them attractive to themselves, their children and to the public. In traveling about the country one sees thousands of barn-like and shed-like houses on the farms, and many of them without a flower, shrub or even shade-tree about them. Some have a few shade-trees about them, and at a distance one would be led to believe that they were neat little homes, but closer view dispels the illusion. Chickens, ducks and little pigs about the front yard or in the usual puddle near the well, with a big brindle dog under the doorstep, incline one to drive on to the next house if thirsting for a drink of water. Very seldom does one see a farm home where any really effective effort has been made to make it and its surroundings attractive.

Occasionally one will drive into a community where a grange or some other farmers' organization exists, and he will note at once the improvement in the homes and their surroundings. Here are trees, shrubs and flowers on fairly clean lawns, with a swing or hammock and a chair or two, and he will note the absence of pigs, fowls and the big brindle dog. One feels safe in stopping at such a place for a drink of water or to purchase a quart of milk to drink as he eats his lunch. Yet even on these places there is not the touches of neatness and prettiness one sees about the suburban home of the merchant, lawyer or other townsman. This is not because the latter has better opportunities, but because he spends more on his home. Usually the farmer is not slow about spending money for farm buildings and fences, or for repairs about the house; but when it comes to beautifying the house and its immediate surroundings he shuts himself and his pocketbook up as close as a clam.

This is where the mistake is made. The townsman ornaments his dwelling and puts iron chairs and settees under his trees, screens in his large porches, plants the brightest of flowers in prettily edged flower-beds, erects an ornamental fence about his lot, and does all he can to make it attractive, though his income may be no larger than that of the farmer who thinks it foolishness to spend money on such things. Beautiful country homes, these make the country attractive. They need not be expensive, they can be pretty without being costly, and above all they may be comfortable. A farmer who sold his farm and moved into town and built a neat little cottage said, after he had lived in town two years, "I can't understand why I was so short-sighted as to live thirty years on my farm in the next thing to a shack! I never once thought of making my farm home attractive. When I moved to town, the first thing I thought of was a pretty little cottage in which to live. If I had built a nice cottage on my farm, and made it as neat and homelike as the one I built in town, my wife would never have wanted to come here. I can see now what a pretty spot I could have made of it. The ground lay just right for making a splendid lawn. I had plenty of water and power for making a beautiful fountain. The old trees—oaks, maples and elms—are grand, and all that was needed to make a home that would have been the crowning glory of that locality was a little sense!"

All Over the Farm

TOP-DRESSING ALFALFA

THERE is a genuine interest in alfalfa throughout the Eastern states, and trial patches of it continue to be sown. There is less difficulty in getting the plants through the first summer than there is in wintering them. The summer failures are due to poor preparation of the ground and lack of clipping. The land for alfalfa should be cultivated well the year preceding the sowing if it has weed-seeds in it, and it should be made rich enough with organic material to be able to hold moisture well and not crust and bake badly. The greatest danger to alfalfa in most cases is the first winter, and the best protection to it is a coat of evenly spread stable manure. The value of this forage crop is so great that manure is well spared from other crops for it. Having gone to the expense of seeding it on land where there has been some failure in the past, as many have done in their desire to secure a stand of this clover, it will pay well to give it the winter protection of a coat of manure. If the manure has been made fine, either by the use of a spreader or by hand, ten tons an acre will do good service. Coarse, flaky manure is always unfit for top-dressing. We are learning that alfalfa can be grown on almost any kind of a soil that does not have a tight, wet subsoil, if the land is well fitted and some top-dressing is done in the fall. The large amount of rich feed produced by this clover justifies extra care to secure a stand of strong plants.

HARDY CLOVER

The man who can produce for us a good clover sufficiently hardy for fall seeding with wheat can do untold good. The great need of our land is for nitrogen-gathering plants, and the continued fertility of our soils depends greatly upon them. Farmers want to sow timothy and clover in their wheat, having clover chiefly the first year of mowing. The timothy is sown in part to make meadow the second year, but largely, too, because clover is too fickle to be depended upon. Fall is the only safe time for seeding timothy, and clover is safely sown only in the spring or summer. It results that we put the timothy in the fresh seed-bed made for wheat, giving it every chance, and then the clover must take whatever room and moisture is left for it the next spring. In good clover-soils the plan works well enough, and in other soils it works badly enough. The percentage of clover-plants in the meadow is entirely too small, and the first year of meadow takes far more out of the ground than it adds to it, while the second year brings another draft. Under such a system land has little chance to help itself. Our great need is for a variety of clover so hardy that it can be sown with wheat, getting an even chance with the grass and wheat. If we could have a stand of well-rooted clover-plants in the spring, they would not be robbed by the timothy, nor would they die out after wheat harvest. In an occasional season medium red clover sown with fall wheat will go through the winter in good condition, but this is not an occurrence sufficiently frequent on most land to justify the seeding. Some have tried Alsike with more success, finding it hardier than the red. But it appears that we have no clover that is at all sure when sown as late as wheat is seeded. If a variety can be found in any other country, or if one can be developed, that has this required hardiness, it could supply a great need.

ON TIME

The "On-Timers' League" was organized a number of years ago in a Western city to promote promptness. It published a quite creditable paper in the interest of the organization, and a neat pin, bearing the letters "O-T," serve to distinguish its members throughout the country. The dominant idea was that every person should be "on time," and not a "little behind time," in the performance of their duties. A person can do only so much, anyway, and that work is made harder and often unprofitable by being just a little "behindhand." The teachings of that league come home to many of us who are farmers, or should do so, in a greater degree than to business men in other fields of labor. A man who is selling goods or manufacturing them must be reasonably near on time in his engagements or drop out of competition. But we farmers are running our own business without much direct contact with the world, and there is a splendid opportunity for getting behindhand, and then staying that way. It is my practice to watch my fields closely, honestly charging up any partial failure exactly where it belongs, and nine times out of ten when the yield is not what I desire the cause can be found in failure to do something "on time." It is the man who is "ready" that wins, and there is no luck about it; it is the man who stays a week late in his work that has small success, and there is no luck about that. Some men cannot bring themselves to do things until circumstances force it, and they need an employer who will say the word "go;" on the other hand, some men force circumstances a little, and their failures are few in number. The rewards for being "on time" in farming are greater than belated folk can be brought to realize. They consist, ordinarily, in the difference between profit and loss. DAVID.

RESERVOIR FOR STOCK-WATER

I would build a circular tank, eight feet in diameter (inside) and ten feet high. That will hold about eighty barrels. Build it of cement and gravel and it should endure forever if it is made right, and the cost should not exceed the price of a good wooden tank. Perhaps it may be made for less. To build it you can use wooden hoops three eighths of an inch thick run through a planer to bring to even thickness, bent to shape and bolted together at one end. Make these hoops of green oak and they will bend fairly easily and keep their shape while you ram in the concrete. The core may be made of two-by-four-inch stuff set up like a tub; the lumber will be uninjured by this use, and may be used over again. There are a good many of these tanks in use, and if the cement is rightly mixed in proportion of one to five of sharp gravel, and it is afterward plastered with cement mixed one to two of sand, and only the best cement is used, and it is done soon to get hard before cold weather, it should make a tank that will endure through all the ages.—J. E. Wing, in the Breeder's Gazette.

ALFALFA FOR FODDER

On the New York State Experiment Station grounds at Geneva I witnessed the harvesting of a fine crop of alfalfa (probably the second or third this year), and noticed what excellent hay it makes; and in the same vicinity from the car-window I saw a farmer mowing a mess from a small patch with the scythe for his two cows, which were waiting on the other side of the fence for their supper. When seeing a piece of alfalfa I always regret that I do not have a piece of land suitable to put in alfalfa. A very little patch of it would furnish the most excellent green feed for my cattle for just about six or seven months, without extra labor, and year after year. Commence at one end, cutting the daily supply, and when in a month or so you get to the other end you can go right back and go over the same ground again, and repeat this until the end of the open season. Dry weather is not apt to cut the crop short, either. Having no piece of deep, naturally drained soil, such as alfalfa requires, available for it, I have to sow oats and peas and soy-beans and cow-peas, all of which, although excellent for the purpose, make extra labor, and only by great care in timing the planting give me the continuous supply so easily secured by means of growing a patch of alfalfa. This is eminently the crop for green fodder. T. GREINER.

A GROUP OF FARM-BUILDINGS

In describing his farm-buildings, shown by the accompanying illustration, Mr. Turnworthy L. Fowler, of North Pembroke, N. H., says: "The main house is twenty-eight by thirty-eight feet, two stories, with five rooms and hall on each floor. The ell is twenty-four by thirty feet, with dining-room, kitchen and pantry on the first floor, and three bedrooms on the second floor. There is a cellar under the whole house. Water runs from the well into the cellar, and is pumped up into the kitchen. The first part of the shed from the house to the barn is thirty-two feet long by twenty-four wide; the second part, twenty-eight by thirty. The barn is forty feet by eighty, with fifteen-foot posts. The carriage-house, at the south corner of the barn, is twenty-five by thirty feet. There are two other sheds attached which are not shown in the illustration. There is a cellar under the whole barn. Water runs into a trough in the barn cellar, where the cows drink, but is pumped into the horse-stable adjoining the carriage-house.

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In the Field

INTENSIVE FARMING

"RESULTS, that's what counts," was the inelegant but forceful expression of one of our great men in commenting on his party's work in Congress. If the remark be applied to farming its significance and truthfulness lose no force; rather, is peculiarly appropriate. There are theories and theorics, and endless ways of doing things, especially in farming and stock-raising, and no one method can be selected and proven superior under all circumstances to any other. There can be but one test, and that is "results." In farming, the man who does the most with the available means is rightfully accounted most successful. After all, success is a relative term, in which the positive and superlative degrees are widely separated. It would be a strange situation, indeed, if all farmers were equally successful in their calling. As well expect equal success among business men. Neighbors on adjoining farms who are confronted by the very same conditions of soil, climate and moisture are very seldom equally successful. Eliminating the element of luck, there is no reason why these neighbors should not be equally successful if the same methods be followed. Probably no case can be furnished where the true cause for variation in results cannot be reduced to the question of method, and method alone. There is probably no farming community in the country that is without its farmer who appears to get along somewhat more easily than his neighbors. His crops not only appear to grow more luxuriantly than those of his neighbors, but they actually do. Similar conditions are found in all the departments of his farm. It appears as if Nature were a willing slave to obey the commands of this fortunate man, whose instructions never prove amiss, and whose plans never fail. The results of his methods are visible, and by carefully observing them they may be imitated to the advantage of those who desire better results from their farming.

Let the reader take any one in his own community who is successful above the average, and study his methods, and certainly it will become apparent that his success is the offspring of intelligent endeavor. He makes a partner of Nature rather than a poorly paid hireling. He has his mill ready to grind when the wind blows, and his crops receptive for the shower. In short, he does all he can, and strives to benefit from Nature's gifts in the largest possible measure.

Concentrated effort in farming has produced results that are truly amazing. Attention to details and economy of force combine to give apparently abnormal and impossible returns. Nevertheless, it has been demonstrated time and again in these latter days that the business of farming may also be made to grow and assume not only gigantic proportions, but to acquire fecundity and intensity unimagined by those not so fortunate as to witness its operation.

Under the above heading the case of a farmer was written about in the FARM AND FIRESIDE some weeks ago. This farmer may well be taken as a type—one of a cult, or class, whose watchword is "economy and results." He has one hundred and sixty acres of land. As was stated in the former article, he plants sixty acres in corn each year. These sixty acres are planted in corn every year. Just how many years that ground has grown corn without any rotation is not at present known, but it may safely be said for at least a dozen years. It must not be supposed that the soil of these sixty acres is not revived and restored. This farmer understands crop and soil chemistry, and returns in some degree the properties the corn crop removes from the soil. One word in passing: Every farmer should know something of the properties of the soil on his farm. Without this knowledge he cannot intelligently cultivate his farm. It is within the reach of every farmer in the country to learn sufficient about the subject to plant and rotate to the best advantage. The Secretary of Agriculture will supply books and pamphlets to farmers everywhere upon application, in which are printed facts and information relative to almost every phase of farm experience. The Department of Agriculture is maintained for farmers, and they should place themselves in the way of receiving all the benefits possible from its operations and experiments. The farmer in question is a careful student of all subjects pertaining to his business in life, and it was in an agricultural paper costing fifty cents a year that he first received the idea of farming intensively rather than extensively. He changed his methods, and prospered from the first year.

One hundred acres of the one hundred and sixty are devoted to pasture and raising other crops. Twenty acres are sown in clover, and about that much clover is grown year after year. As was described in the former article, this clover hay is stored in the mows with shredded corn-stalks, alternate layers of each. The whole is then cut down with a hay-knife, and chopped fine in a power-cutting box. Every corn-stalk is saved that grows on this farm, and every particle of other food-stuff. Nothing is wasted, and a profit is made from everything. Every bit of the products of the farm is fed to some variety of live stock. All the grain is ground in a mill on the farm, and all the hay and fodder chopped and mixed with the ground-grain food.

There are sixty acres in blue-grass pasture, and there are no barren spots in this ideal pasture-field. There are many trees—maple and oak—growing in this pasture, but the grass grows right up to the tree-trunks. There is a clear stream winding through the field, and blue-grass grows right down to the water's edge. Every square inch is made to produce its quota of grass. Every season this careful farmer goes about over his pasture, searching for bare spots where the grass has been frozen or burned out or destroyed by the restless hoofs of the sixty cows pasturing there. He scatters seed over all such spots, and throws handfuls of it indiscriminately about. The result is a thick coat of blue-grass sod, which at times is knee-deep to the cows browsing there. These sixty cows are placed in stalls every night, summer and winter, and fed twice a day on a mixture of ground grain and chopped hay and fodder, all thoroughly mixed, salted and wet down. After feeding they are milked. The milk is sold for twenty cents a gallon at the farm, and shipped to the city every night. During the summer season a large part of the milk is made into ice-cream on the farm. This is sold to hotels in the city, and a high price is received for it, for the reason that the very highest quality of materials are put into it. All the skim-milk is fed to hogs, of which from one hundred to two hundred are fed yearly, and marketed when fat.

Not even the water in the stream is allowed to go to waste on this farm, for a large ice-house has been erected, and this is filled every winter by the men employed to milk and care for the cows. This is done actually without any additional expense. The ice is used in the cooling of milk and making ice-cream, and the surplus is shipped to the city.

Of course, all manure made on the farm is carefully collected and returned to the soil. In addition commercial fertilizer is used as may be required.

To describe all the methods of this farm would actually take a volume, for the plans necessarily vary from day to day and from year to year; yet in the main the methods followed with reasonable consistency from year to year are as have been explained. The results are tangible quantities and admit of no speculation. They are as have been defined, and with comparatively no variation are realized every year. From being a poor farmer encumbered with debt, and with almost a hopeless future, under old conditions, the owner of this farm, by his intensive and economical methods, has saved a good-sized fortune, in addition to paying for his farm and securing ideal improvements.

C. M. GINTHER.

Gardening

By T. GREINER

SPINACH FOR HOME USE.—Mrs. V. K. F., of Itaska, N. Y., who has never grown spinach, may select Long Standing, Viroflay or a number of others catalogued by seedsmen with equal chances of success.

GREEN ARSENOID.—If the green arsenoid which we used for the past two years was a fair sample of what is sent out under that name we may well recommend it as both cheaper and better than Paris green. Different samples of such things quite often differ materially.

COOKING EGG-PLANT.—Mrs. D. P., another reader, who fails to give an address, asks how egg-plants are cooked, and how she may know when the eggs are ready to use. No one in her neighborhood has ever grown any, but infected by my enthusiasm for the vegetable she has grown some plants, and also distributed some among her neighbors. I think she will not regret having done so, and her neighbors will call her blessed. The egg-plant is surely interesting, even if she should fail to get as much table enjoyment out of her crop as I do out of mine. The eggs may be used any time after they have made some growth until they approach maturity. Peel the egg, and cut into thin slices crosswise, the slices to be one fourth of an inch or less in thickness. Sprinkle slightly with salt, pile up, then put a weight on them, to extract some of the water, letting them stand for a few hours, after which dip each slice into egg and cracker-crumbs, and fry in butter until a nice brown. Frequently I fry them without first dipping them into the egg and cracker-crumb batter. I have yet to meet the person who failed to like egg-plant when thus served. I use them in place of meat. Of course, there are other ways of cooking this vegetable.

A BEAN-VINE ENEMY.—N. C. B., of Meadow Gap, Pa., sends me a large beetle and some other insect, and reports that they were caught near his snap-beans, a large bed of which was nearly wholly destroyed by some enemy cutting the stalk right off a little above the surface of the ground. The insects sent me arrived badly dried up and broken, but from the wing-cases, the only thing recognizable of the larger black beetle, I thought I could identify it as one of the large cutworm-eaters (calosoma). This beetle is a great friend of ours, and surely not responsible for the destruction of the bean-vines. The mischief may have been done by one of the many species of cutworm, and the large beetle probably was on the hunt for this enemy, which constitutes its favorite article of food. It should not be difficult to determine whether the cutworm is the real culprit or not. It feeds during the night, especially in the early morning hours, and at that time can easily be caught in the act by lantern-light. Or if you will go to the patch in the early morning, and find some plant freshly cut down, you will most likely find the cutworm responsible for it if you dig into the ground around the destroyed plant. But don't lay the blame on the useful cutworm-eater, or calosoma, which in the course of a few years destroys cutworms by the dozen. In a general way, however, when puzzled by insect-destroyers or by unrecognized plant-diseases, do not fail to forward specimens of the suspected insect, as well as of the diseased plant, to your own experiment station, or to the Department in Washington, and ask them for information. It will usually be freely given.

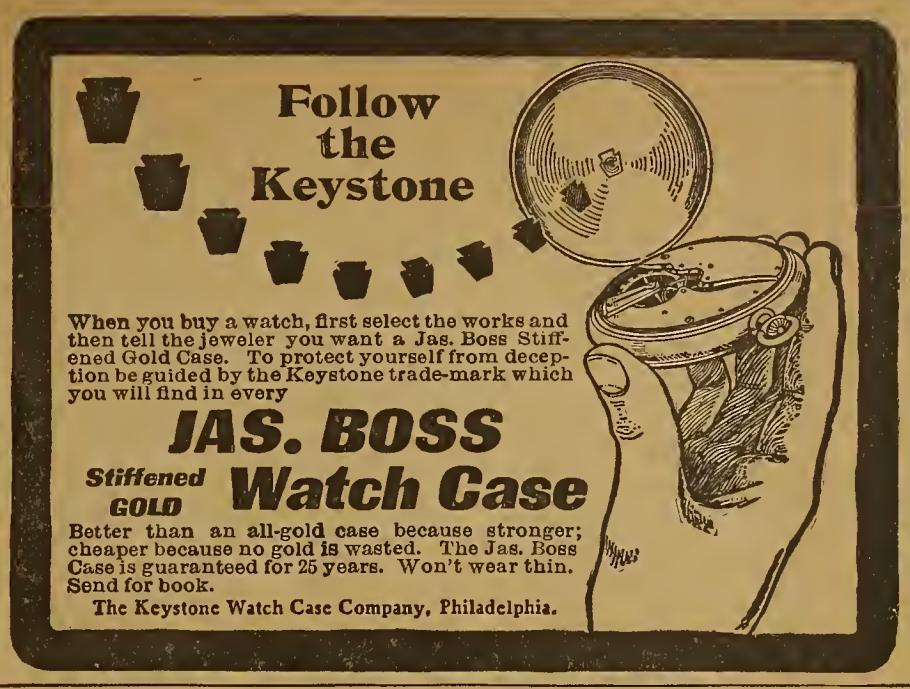
Fruit-Growing

By S. B. GREEN

ROYAL CHURCH RASPBERRY—CHERRY FAILING TO BEAR.—W. W., Sheboygan, Wis. The Royal Church raspberry has red fruit, which crumbles to pieces so much as to make it undesirable for commercial purposes.——I think your Morello cherry-trees fail to bear because the fruit-buds were injured in winter. It may be that checking the growth some will cause them to mature earlier, and in this way make them hardier. I think the best way of doing this is to cut off the tops of the new growth at this season of the year; but there is no really satisfactory way of doing this where the trees are growing on rich soil.

PROPAGATING NUT-TREES.—W. G. P., Minneapolis, Minn. It is impracticable to grow butternuts and black walnuts from cuttings. The best way for propagating these trees is from the seed, which should be gathered in the autumn, mixed with sand, buried outdoors through the winter, and planted in the spring. The shell-bark and hickory will grow in Minnesota and Wisconsin in favorable locations on rich, deep soil. Large native trees of this grow in southern Wisconsin and south-eastern Minnesota, but further north and west it should have some protection for best results. Around Lake Minnetonka I think it can be grown satisfactorily. The best way of starting this tree is the same as for the butternut. It is best to get seed from as near your section as it grows. It is better to start with the seed, as I do not think that native trees can be found that can be moved satisfactorily.

EVERGREEN SEEDLINGS.—O. O. S., Windom, Minn. The trouble which you have in evergreen seedlings dying shortly after they get nicely started is a very common one with many kinds of seedlings, especially with some kinds of pine and spruce. Such seedlings generally do best when partially shaded, so that they do not have more than about half of the direct sunlight. To obtain this condition, and also a good circulation of air over the seedlings, which is likewise necessary, they should be covered with a screen, which should be at least four feet above them; it should also come down on the south side far enough so that there will be a play of light and shadow over the plants all day long, and never full sunshine. In addition to this we find that seedlings which are grown in sand are very much less liable to attacks of disease than those which are grown in clay soil, and we make a practice of covering our seed-bed, either before or soon after the seedlings come out of the ground, with fine sand about one fourth of an inch deep. When growing pine seedlings in an ordinary clay loam the soil spatters up onto the seedlings, and stays there, and I think has something to do with bringing about disease conditions favorable for the growth of the damping-off fungus. The sand will likewise be spattered up onto the seedlings, but as soon as dry it falls off. Under natural conditions pine seedlings will come up through a mulch of old grass and perhaps pine needles, and very likely under the shade of pine, poplar or other trees which give it about the situation we try to obtain. I would suggest that you at once apply sand to your seedlings, although the chances are, since they have lived until this time, that you will have little, if any, trouble by their damping off. On the approach of winter seedling evergreens should be covered with some light mulch; for this purpose I prefer oak-leaves, but straw will answer very well. This should be put on at least four inches thick. There is a great difference in the power of different kinds of pine to withstand the damping-off process. The bull-pine, for instance, will grow fairly in somewhat sandy soil, and there seems to be no necessity whatever for using the shade for it. The same is also true of the Douglas spruce and the Jack Pine, while the white pine prefers the shade.



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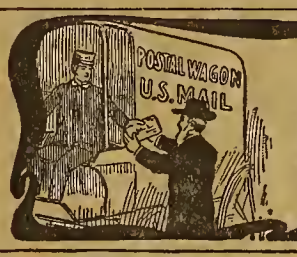

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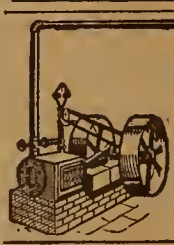

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Live Stock and Dairy

RENOVATED BUTTER

BAD butter appears to have become an important article of commerce, and is readily bought by the factories, where it is made over into "fine butter."

The outcast butter from the markets is gathered up by the agents of the factories, and shipped in barrels and hogsheads. All the colors of the rainbow may not be represented in this unattractive conglomeration, but certainly there are many more shades than the rainbow has colors. At the factories it is reduced to a liquid, and the water, curd, salt, coloring-matter, insoluble dirt and other foreign substances removed from the oil and thrown away. The oil is then "purified" by the process of blowing air through it, and is sometimes washed to remove as much as possible any remaining foreign matter. The oil is then granulated by being given a cold-water bath, after which it is churned with fresh cream to give it a new flavor and character, and is then colored, salted, and put onto the market as fresh butter.

Of course, it makes the claim of being pure and wholesome from its baptism of fire and manipulation, but, like oleomargarine, it does not appear to carry with it any appetizing recommendation to the consumer who has any knowledge of its early or intermediate history. The consumers of this butter, however, are entirely ignorant of its character, they supposing it to be fresh creamery-butter.

If the producers of the butter that is so bad it has to travel this round-about way to get to the consumers' table knew half as well as the renovators do that the public demands food products that first please the eye, and next at least do not offend the palate, and would bestow some of the care and skill upon it that the renovators are willing to contribute to make it appear what it is not, it would go into consumption directly from the farmers, who would receive the profit from making and selling a good article; whereas, at the prices at which the factories buy their "stock butter" there cannot be anything but loss to the primary producer.

This butter all comes from the farmers, for the public creameries are so well equipped that they are able to put into practice all the modern and scientific methods relating to their business, and produce a uniformly salable article. True, the creamery output is often not as desirable as it should be, for the creamerymen have the handicap of the dirty and careless habits some of their patrons have in handling their milk—habits that contaminate the milk sent to the creamery just as they would, if the milk were made into butter at home, produce "stock" for the renovating-factories.

We farmers grow highly indignant when we hear or see ourselves referred to as dirty, ignorant or careless; but we cannot ignore the fact that there is a fearful amount of dense ignorance among us, and of ignorance the other shortcomings are born.

This ignorance can be overcome only by disabusing the rural mind of the idea that the occupation of farming needs no intellectual preparation on the part of those engaged in it.

I know of no business or professional vocation calling for a higher quality of skill and intelligence than the one of dairying and making butter; and that those engaged in this work should not hasten to avail themselves of the education our excellent agricultural journals offer so cheaply is hard to understand.

There are pessimists who say that if all our cows averaged three hundred pounds of butter a year we would so overstock the market that prices would fall to starvation level; that if we all raised eighty bushels of corn and thirty-five bushels of wheat and three tons of hay an acre we could find no possible markets for so much stuff.

I am sure none of us need fear the coming of the day of the passing of the last poor cow or the day of the universally good crops, and go on with such a spirit of abnegation and martyrdom that is willing to keep behind in the procession for fear some one will fall out of the crowded band-wagon. W. F. McSPARRAN.

Live Stock and Dairy

KEEPING COWS CLEAN

Our cows will soon go into the stable for the fall. They have been out on the land several months, are now neat and clean, and it seems a pity we cannot, or will not, keep them so. I say "will not," because it is just as easy to keep a cow clean in the stable as it is a horse. We would feel ashamed to allow our horses to get so foul in appearance as we do our cows. We would not drive a horse to town or anywhere else in the condition we milk our cows, yet it is quite as important that we should keep the cow free from impurities as that the horse should be brushed regularly every day.

I know of farmers who brush their cows every day just as regularly and just as carefully as they do their horses. They give them just as good bedding, and change it as frequently, as they do that of the horses. It does not require much time to do this. The trouble is to acquire the habit. No argument is needed to convince the most careless that from the standpoint of health—the health of the animals themselves, and that of the people who drink the milk and eat the butter—it pays to keep the cattle clean. Taints are quickly transferred from the cows to the milk in the pails. Taints mean disease; disease means death. Do be clean! E. L. Vincent.

SWINE-RAISING FOR WOMEN

It seems strange that so few women are to found among swine-breeders. There are women poultry-keepers innumerable. Yet swine-raising is scarcely more difficult than poultry-raising, is easily understood, and is fully as remunerative.

In preparing for swine some outside help is needed to assist in erecting the pens, sheds and various conveniences, to render the work easy and comfortable.

There is always a demand in corn-raising districts for young hogs as feeders after the fall crops are harvested. A woman can easily care for several sows and their offspring, and thus have a nice little bunch of shoats to sell every fall. A small patch of kale or rape is necessary to furnish green food during the early spring months, followed by a sowing of sorghum to cut during the hot, dry weather or until the sweet-corn fills and can be fed. Thus she will find it necessary to furnish scarcely more grain during the summer than an average-sized flock of poultry would require. During August, if the ground is moist enough, a patch of turnips may be sown, to furnish green feed during the winter for those kept over.

I know of one woman who has tried swine-raising, and she finds the work more profitable than poultry-keeping. She managed in one way and another to save money to buy what grain her hogs needed all through the summer, and cut and pulled weeds to furnish the bulk of the feed. Although the price of grain was then above the average, she managed to bring her hogs through in good growing condition with an average monthly expenditure of forty cents a head. All this went for ground wheat—shorts, middlings, etc.—to be made into slops and fed twice a day. Any woman able to properly prepare for poultry-raising may very profitably keep a sow or two of some good breed. C. B. Barrett.

SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDS

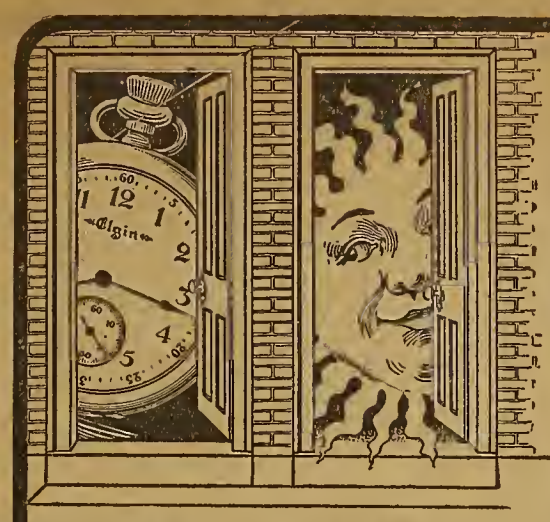
The promise for a great, if not "bumper," crop of corn is accepted on all hands, though of late some estimates have been rather sharply reduced, and we do not hear quite so much of the "bumper" condition as a few weeks ago. The sudden filling of the cribs after their marked emptiness of the past season will induce many farmers to resume the work of meat-making, and the corn will be their chief reliance. Nevertheless, a large amount of other foods will be used, perhaps more than in any other year, for the reason that many farmers discovered last season that it is easier, and cheaper, too, to make meat with two foods than with one alone, no matter if that one is corn.

Purveyors of food-stuffs are a sharp legion of men, and those of the common animal-foods the sharpest of their ilk. Analyses of all sorts of "foods" and meals by the experiment stations throw a ray of light on this subject, and show that many a man has paid out his good money for "guaranteed" quantities of this,

GALLOWAY BULL—CEDRIC 4th—IMPORTED
Owned by Col. D. McRae, Ontario, Canada

that and the other food element who got nothing but oat-hulls, mill-floor sweepings, and the like. The concentrated foods that are given cattle in the shape of fine-ground meals are the most easily adulterated, and the temptation to adulterate them is great for the reason that their original substances are the most costly. Still it pays to feed them liberally, at least in the finishing periods of fattening, and this season they will be largely fed.

Any one contemplating the purchase of a large amount of any one of these highly concentrated meals must see to it that he gets that for which he pays. There can be no doubt that swindling will be attempted. Every one who buys such commodities ought to have a sample of the goods submitted to his experiment station for analysis, and if it will not fill the bill made out for it, it ought to be rejected. Another point to be remembered in this connection is that only thoroughly reliable and financially responsible people ought to be dealt with. Attempts will be made by glib salesmen at the state and other fairs to obtain advance orders for the coming season, but buyers should be on their guard. There is no telling what may be in the stuff when it is received weeks or months afterward. This is not a new story by any means, but it is one that will bear repeating year after year.—The Breeder's Gazette.



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Poultry-Raising

By P. H. JACOBS

THE sixteenth annual show of the Wabash Valley Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stock Association will be held at Evansville, Ind., December 15 to 20 inclusive, 1902.

GUARDING AGAINST CONTAGION

No one should keep a bird after it comes from another place if it shows indication of disease, as there is no knowing the nature of the disease until it fully develops, and then it may be too late if it is of a contagious character. Some birds are "immunes," and escape all diseases, while others are easily affected. No bird is exempt, but there are some families among all breeds that are hardier than others. Inbreeding, overfeeding and exposure will affect the breeds. Roup has been known to prevail in yards in which certain families quickly succumb, while other birds that roosted, ate and drank with them were not affected.

SELECTION BY FORM

It is difficult to select the layers according to their forms. It is possible that one person in a hundred may learn to thus select, but the great mass of farmers and poultrymen have not yet arrived at such a stage of proficiency. Some claim to be able to pick out the best layers at sight, but those who make such claims differ materially from each other, giving entirely different types as their respective models of great egg-producers. All agree that the layer is the sharp, active hen; but since that description applies to almost all when they are laying, and to none when they are molting, it is apparently a poor guide. Some agree that the egg-producer is a wedge-shaped bird; but while they would have her slim in front, and gradually deepening toward the rear, others prefer one whose "massive" shoulders form the butt of the "wedge," and whose body tapers off in a point behind. Such theories have not been verified in practice. It is only by careful selection of the best year after year, and breeding from them, that the egg-producing qualities of the flock can be fostered and improved.

MORE ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

There are but few who devote their whole time exclusively to poultry, and yet the enormous product of eggs and poultry is due to what may be justly called the extra periods of labor. Yet, small as is the attention given poultry, the value of such is very great. There is no reason, however, why a fair income may not be derived by devoting the whole time to poultry. It is done profitably in France, and there are establishments in England where hundreds of hens are kept and many thousands of dollars invested. The difference is that but few are educated to a knowledge of the characteristics of the breeds and the proper mode of management. As our country is large, there is a great diversity of soil and climate, and the people of each section must learn the proper conditions for success. There are a few large poultry-farms in America, but there is room for many. That poultry can be made a business has been demonstrated at several points; but success has generally attended those who sold poultry and eggs, at the same time taking advantage of the high prices for early chicks.

POULTRY-HOUSE WITH PROTECTED YARDS

The design of the illustration is not so much to show the building as to call attention to the yards. It will be noticed that the lower portion of the fence is of boards and the upper portion of wire. Between each yard is a muslin partition

fastened to wire. This arrangement serves to prevent the males from injuring each other by picking through the open wire mesh, and the outer boards serve as windbreaks to prevent cold winds in winter from sweeping through the yards. If desired, the yards may also be covered with wire mesh.

SELLING MIXED LOTS

The farmer who has a mixed lot of fowls for market should assort them, and send in two crates—the best in one crate, and the inferior lot in another. If he has a lot of fat, large chickens, and three or four smaller ones, rather than attempt to get a few inferior ones sold with and at the same price as the prime, they should be kept at home. When some buyers are purchasing they do not look in the crate for the best specimens, but for the worst, and purchase accordingly. Where the desire is to sell an old rooster with a lot of good stuff the plan invariably fails, inasmuch as if disposed of with the others he will detract from the value of the lot. It will pay the owner best to retain for home use the old birds and market the young ones. When young table-fowls and old hens are to be disposed of they should be sent in separate crates. The same may be said of ducklings; only those of a like size should be consigned in one coop. Should a few of small size be with the large ones, they are invariably trampled to death on the journey. Old ducks should be sent in separate crates from the young, and in all cases it will pay better to destroy sick birds than to attempt to dispose of them with healthy stock. The larger proportion of poultry sent to market is very inferior. The crowded coops and fatigue of the journey cause a loss of weight. The roosters should never be shipped in the same coop with the hens, as they sell for much less than the hens, and lower the price of all the birds in the coop. Grade the fowls, having those that are in prime condition separate from the others. It may be added that it will pay to keep all inferior fowls at home for a week or two and make them fat. Turkeys will be in demand until spring, and they should be fed well so as to secure as much increase in weight as possible. Old geese are never in demand, and should be kept for breeding purposes, selling only the young birds. More fowls die on the journey to market for want of water than from any other cause, and something more than one drinking-cup should be placed in the coop. The fowls at one end of the coop have no way of knowing that a cup is at the other end, and as they have but one desire—liberty—are not inclined to search for anything else. They lose flesh, arrive at the market out of condition, and do not bring the best prices, simply because not enough water-cups are provided.

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The Grange

By MRS. MARY E. LEE

THE OBSERVATORY

Do the work that lies nearest you, excellently, joyfully, gratefully. In time you may be called to do a greater.

That farmer complains to deaf ears who, while lamenting injustice, fails to coöperate with his neighbor in righting the wrong.

He who turns untoward events to his advancement writes books, founds cities, operates intricate traveling systems, rules continents.

The rural bully and ruffian is often a blessing in disguise. His audacity calls into activity the keenest thought and quickest wit of his neighbors.

The wisest of men speak oftener from whim and prejudice than from reason. Of what stuff, then, must the conversation of ordinary mortals be!

An excess of evil is usually an excrescence of animal spirits. In work requiring daring and courage your spendthrift of energy will often win fame and renown.

POWER

The affirmative class monopolize the homage of mankind. They originate and execute all the great feats. What a force was coiled up in the skull of Napoleon. Of the sixty thousand men making his army at Eylan it seems some thirty thousand were thieves and burglars. The men whom in peaceful communities we hold, if we can, with iron at their legs, in prisons under the muskets of sentinels, this man dealt with hand to hand, dragged them to their duty, and won his victories by their bayonets.—Emerson.

ENERGY IN GRANGE-MEETINGS

Don't let the meeting drag. Let the responses under each head be prompt and dispatched as quickly as may be possible. Don't let discussion drift. Keep speakers to the point. Some members bob up serenely on any and every occasion. Usually they shoot wide of the mark. They talk around the subject, and vainly promise to come to the point. They never do. Call them down, and attend to the matter in hand. It's the dull, dragging minutes waiting for reports, the wasted time on matters that profit not, that drive men and women of sense and energy from the meetings. Expedition, judgment, precision, are as essential in grange-meetings as in any walk of life.

NOTES BY THE WAY

We were suddenly called to Colorado by the serious illness of a sister and child. We took a route through northern Illinois, central Iowa and Nebraska, parts of the states, by day. Through Iowa, Illinois and eastern Nebraska the crops were magnificent. Many beautiful houses, set in luxuriant lawns, and commodious barns were seen. Green meadows and sleek cattle delighted the eye of the farm lover. But western Nebraska and Colorado—well, there is sand everywhere. It fills the houses and chokes the breath. In the air of Pueblo there is something that makes the blood leap in the veins, and the imagination riot with reason.

Of farms as we of the East know them there is naught—only great ranches, with here and there an irrigated field, glorious with its luxuriant alfalfa.

What a mighty problem is that of irrigation. The question with me is, Where is the water to come from? From Cedar Rapids the North Platte was a great, sandy plain. There is no snow on the mountains, and the sparkling streams of which we read so much exist, so far as I can see, in the mind only.

The prairie flowers of Nebraska are brilliant and beautiful. I smile at the vast acres of arrogant cacti that we carefully tend in Ohio. I am willing to never again see a cactus-plant.

WOMEN AND THE GRANGE

One of the chief benefits of the grange has been to give women a higher notion of the sacredness of the human body. Life is more than "meat and drink," they have found. To do a vast amount of drudgery, to expend energy foolishly, when by taking thought it can be avoided or done in an easier way, has become repugnant to their enlightened views. The body they view as the noble temple of the mind. It must be nurtured and cared for.

The inconsistency of going to church one day out of seven, and chanting of the majesty of the soul, and then for six days thereafter sacrificing it on the altar of drudgery has struck home. It is to the grange more than to any other institution that women owe gratitude for the nobler view. It has lifted them out of the ruts, and led them by easy and delightful bypaths into a better way.

God speed the day when the farmer's wife will consider it a crime to bring a child into the world, and then neglect its nobler self. She cannot care for it wisely, no matter how tenderly she loves it, if she is a worn-out drudge. Truly woman's noblest sphere is the home, if home means something more than sixteen hours of toil and eight hours of dull, heavy sleep. My heart goes out in tenderest sympathy to the tired, worn-out woman hungering for the noblest things of life, yet depriving herself of them because of mistaken notions of duty. May she be helped, as thousands of others have been helped, by the recreation and social life the grange affords, and by the brightening influence contact of mind with mind brings. "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."

SUGGESTIONS TO LECTURERS

The successful lecturer of a pomona or subordinate grange has no easy task to perform in attending to the duties of the office. Even when the program for the year has been prepared and printed there is much to do in seeing that the members assigned the various parts are ready to respond when their names are reached. We fear there are lecturers who do not realize this part of their duty, and think there is nothing further required except to call for the exercises arranged as the various meetings occur. The program is a basis for systematic work, and to furnish information to members in regard to the exercises to be presented at each meeting, but does not relieve the lecturer of the necessity of notifying those who are to take part in those exercises if he or she has any reason to suppose they will be forgotten or neglected if not specially notified. There will be more or less failures, anyway, and it will be necessary to provide substitutes, which should be arranged for previous to the meeting in which they are to take part. A railroad issues a time-table stating the running of its trains, but there are many contingencies that will arise not possible to know about when the time-table was issued that will need the attention of the manager if the trains are to run according to it. The lecturer of a grange arranges a program at the beginning of the year stating the exercises that will occur, but there will be many things to look after during the year, and some places in the program to fill from time to time, if it is rendered with any degree of accuracy. It is the attention to these matters seasonably that makes the difference between interesting grange-meetings and dull, uninteresting ones.—National Grange Bulletin.

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Around the Fireside

SOMETHING SINGS

Let me go where'er I will,
I hear a sky-born music still;
It sounds from all things old,
It sounds from all things young,
From all that's fair, from all that's foul,
Peals out a cheerful song.
It is not only in the rose,
It is not only in the bird,
Not only where the rainbow glows,
Nor in the songs of women heard;
But in the darkest, meanest things
There alway, alway something sings.

'Tis not in the high stars alone,
Nor in the cups of budding flowers,
Nor in the redbreast's mellow tone,
Nor in the bow that smiles in showers;
But in the mud and scum of things
There alway, alway something sings.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

ENTHUSIASM OF A DYING SCIENTIST

"THE first penguin we met," says Prof. C. E. Borchgrevink, the Antarctic explorer, in an article on penguins in "Leslie's Monthly," "arrived October 14, 1899, at Cape Adair, in South Victoria Land, thus long before the ice had broken up. I killed him at the request of my zoölogist, who was dying at the time. The man knew that his death was only a question of hours, but he had looked forward to the arrival of the birds, and the news of this first arrival excited him. He begged us to kill and dissect the bird before him, although he himself was to follow the bird into the mystery of death half an hour afterward, and he knew it! He showed the utmost interest in the operation, and dictated scientific notes as he watched it till within fifteen minutes of his dissolution."

ALL HOME-MADE

The village autocrat was holding forth at the grocery-store, and political economy was his theme.

"This country will never be what our forefathers meant it sh'd—the land o' the free—till ev'ry man's his own producer an' his own consumer!"

The sentiment was a taking one with his listeners until one of them suggested, "Guess you'd fare slim for breakfast ef that law was to go in force t'-night!"

That set the visitor to taking account of her breakfast-table. There was coffee from Java, and sugar from Cuba, and beef from Dakota, and potatoes from Maine, and flour from Minnesota, and wood from Nova Scotia, and coal from Pennsylvania. Every one of these had come over several lines of railway, each of which was operated by hundreds of trained men, on whose precision rests the comforts of the morning meal.

Yet it was but a short century since the condition so graphically described by the country philosopher actually existed in New England. We cannot return to it, but while it lasted it certainly did make strong men and brave women.

In a recently printed history of a Vermont family—Samuel Slade Benton and his descendants—there is a vivid picture of the independence of their life.

"They were sufficient unto themselves," writes their grandson, "and by severe and constant toil they took from the soil nearly all that was necessary for a plain, simple, healthful life." Then he goes on to enumerate their products—bricks, mortar, logs, lumber, maple-sugar, flax, wool, potash, wheat, rye, oats, barley, corn, apples, currants, cherries, plums, pears, berries, fish, poultry, game, horses, sheep, cattle, hay, and a score of other articles. By barter from Portland or Boston they obtained salt, almost the only necessity of life which Vermont did not provide.

The philosopher of the grocery-store might well reflect that a life so strenuous left little time for meditation, and none for gossip. Says their historian, "The ax and the crowbar, the beetle and the wedge, the sickle and the scythe, the shovel and the hoe, the flail and the fan, were the simple implements by which they subdued the wilderness, cultivated the soil and gathered its harvest. They had no eight-hour day, but labored 'from sun to sun.' With the exception of the Fourth of July, when they assembled to hear the Declaration of Independence read, and usually to hear an 'oration' by the minister; and Thanksgiving, when they worshiped, and fed on the good things they raised, they had no holidays. Labor was so constant and unremitting that it became a habit of their lives, and their descendants even now, under better conditions, often feel that a leisure hour is an offense."
—Youth's Companion.

WU TING-FANG'S IMPRESSIONS OF AMERICA

Americans are known, in whatever quarter of the world chance happens to throw them, by their marvelous self-reliance and independence. A typical American is never at a loss what to do with himself. If, by some enchantment, he were whisked away over night and set down in the middle of Timbuctoo, he would doubtless, when he should awake the next morning, be astonished, but before luncheon he would be busily engaged in some business enterprise, so readily does he adapt himself to circumstances. In every instance he knows how to take care of himself, but perhaps the real secret of his success is that he knows how to make the most of his opportunities.

An American student usually realizes that education is the stepping-stone to achievement. He studies with the expectation of fitting himself for the profession or occupation he is ultimately to enter. He makes the most of himself as a student, that he may be able to make the most of himself in his chosen career. All through his course of study this idea is instilled into his mind, and the consequence is that he leaves his college or university well prepared to enter upon life's activities. He is sure of himself. I may also add that the schools of the United States, both public and collegiate, are the crowning glory of this young and great republic. No words can bestow upon them too high praise. No estimate can be put upon the good which they are accomplishing in training young women as well as young men for future usefulness. Systematic education is reaching its highest form in this country. Its results are so practical that the country cannot help but advance.

The intelligence of the average American is worthy of note. This, I take it, is due in large measure not only to the excellent schools, but also to the innumerable newspapers and other publications. I have found in all parts of the country that in every town of any size there is published a daily paper, and that the metropolitan publications circulate in the homes of the most remote corners of the land.

The ability to seize his opportunities, which is characteristic of the American, is seen in the business enterprises of the country. Its industrial machinery is adjusted to the production of its wealth on a scale of unprecedented magnitude, This is a valuable condition. American brains and American capital are reaching out to control the markets of the world, and, with good reason, other nations are watching the efforts with keen interest. China is but awakening to its vast possibilities, and more and more will she welcome the American merchant and American commerce within her borders. American enterprise is now building a railway from Hankow to Canton, and no doubt other roads will soon be building. China's rivers and harbors are to be improved, and there will be more and more demand for American steel rails and other products.—Wu Ting-Fang, in Success.

THE FARMER'S LIFE

BY A MASSACHUSETTS LAWYER

Now and then it is not uncommon to hear farmers complain a bit of their occupation and their lot in life, and imply that people as a general thing do not realize what a hard time of it the farmer has, or give him half the credit that is his due for the hardships and labors he has to endure.

Now, I would not wish to be understood for a moment as implying that the farmer is not deserving of all the praise and commendation which he receives, and more, for his manly struggle with the soil to wrench from its rough grasp a livelihood for himself and his family, but I must confess that I have often wondered if the agriculturist fully realizes what trials and tribulations come to those of other occupations than his.

As I am situated I have abundant opportunity to gain a great deal of insight into the real life and affairs of those about me. For some years now I have been practising law in a certain New England city of moderate size, surrounded by agricultural districts, and after the acquaintances thus made I give it as my unbiased opinion that the farmers are few indeed who realize to the full how much they have to be thankful for.

To be sure, the tradesman's existence at first sight would suggest a life of all play and no work. Ordinarily he dresses better than the farmer; but that is because he has to, whether he wishes to or not. His life is not a butterfly affair, by any means. Long hours in store and shop, with the worry and strain of retail trade, are a steady stress on the nerves of the strongest, and not to be despised. Then, too, there are the trade bills forever to be met and paid, no matter what the conditions of trade may be. It is estimated that ninety-nine out of every one hundred business men fail, sooner or later. Surely the farmer does not fare as ill as this!

Here is a significant truth, which, as the saying is, "will serve as a straw to show which way the wind blows." In every New England town, so far as my experience goes, will be found tradesmen, who, if they should confess the truth, are living and "grubbing" along with the ultimate hope in mind of some day being able to get away and out onto a farm. A butterfly life you may call theirs, but it is that of the butterfly caught in a web, and which is struggling to the utmost to get out, but cannot.

And here again is something worthy of the thoughtful consideration of the farmer. When at last the average city merchant or mechanic has placed himself in a position where he can afford to take a short respite with his family, in which direction do his inclinations take him? Why, out into the country and onto a farm in almost every instance.

And how do he and his family enjoy themselves most during their stay? By entering into the spirit of the farm life and partaking in the farming for the very enjoyment of it. Then, too, when their brief respite is over, and they must return to town, it is with the sincerest possible regret that they leave the farm; and it is these same city prisoners, who have been upon the farm and know the farmer's life, who cherish the secret hope of one day owning one for themselves.

There are so many healthful and inspiring joys in the farmer's life which the city dweller does not get that robust natures are more than compensated for the arduous toil it may also entail. It is my opinion that the farmer has no cause to look with envy upon his brother in the metropolis who is striving to make a living by barter and trade. He may justly content himself with the thought that he is living as broad a life, and as well and independently, as he, and is enjoying many a privilege and advantage of which the other knows nothing.

The Housewife

SOME DAY

Life is a bluff!
Behind our mask we bear the brunt
Of contumely, but our front,
The while we do our daily stunt,
Ignores rebuff;
But as we nurse our wrath, and fret
Beneath our smile, we don't forget,
And somehow we'll get even yet
All right enough.
—Puck.

SHUCK HATS

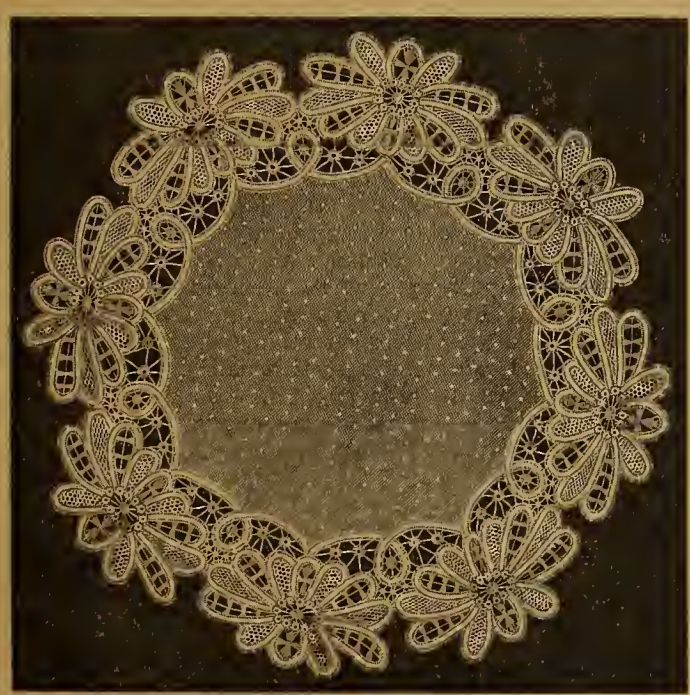
In the Farm and Fireside of August 15th there was an interesting article on hat-making, in which mention was made of the use of raffia for that purpose. It reminded me of an industry which promises to grow to rather large proportions in south Georgia. I have reference to the making of shuck hats. For some years there have been women in the country districts who made for themselves and their friends very pretty hats for every-day use. The hats were constructed of the inner and whiter husk of the Indian corn. The process is very simple—merely to cut a stiff paper the size and shape of the brim desired, a narrow, long strip of which to make the sides of the crown, and a small circle for the top of it. The husks are then cut into tiny strips about one half inch in width, folded together into a point, and laid on the edge of the paper crown, where it is stitched down by the sewing-machine; another point is placed exactly by it, and stitched down, and the process is so continued until there is a row all around the brim. Then a second row is begun, with the points coming between those in the first row, and so on with a third and a fourth row until the entire frame is covered, when the hat is sewed together—that is, the brim and the crown. After this is done the paper may all be torn away.

One may make the points small or large, as desired, and the prettiest way to trim the finished hat is with flowers of simple design, also made from the husks, although I have seen some very lovely ones with a band of black velvet around the brim, and an immense pompon of mousseline on the left side.

As I have said, these hats have been used in the country for some time, but last spring an enterprising young merchant in a Southern city was attracted by the beautiful ones made by a lady of his acquaintance, and gave her an order for one thousand for his millinery department. It was at a time when the town was full of Northern visitors, and the hats at once became the rage, and the young man saw that he had chanced upon a good thing. He at once took steps to patent a machine for their manufacture, and now the hats may be found all over the country, and are pretty enough to look well with almost any toilet.

His quick seizing of an opportunity of which no one else had thought, goes to show how enterprise wins. He has traveled extensively in advertising these hats, and has succeeded in getting them adopted as part of the summer uniform of the pupils in the largest normal and industrial schools of his state, and has received numbers of pleasant letters from prominent women to whom he sent specimens as advertisements.

The manufacture of the hats in the little city gives work to a number of girls who would otherwise have no means



of making their spending-money, as he has fitted up a large room over his store with machines. The girls can thus spend the hours of the work-day there, pleasantly and profitably.

Susie Bouchelle Wight.

A SUCCESSFUL CHURCH SOCIAL

The women of our church had been placed on three committees, each committee to raise money in whatever way it saw fit—by socials, suppers or fairs—but in any case to raise the money to pay the church debt. The committee which I was on decided upon a "Feast of Seven Tables," and it was such a success financially as well as socially that I must tell you of it.

The house which one of the committee opened for the affair had two large parlors and a spacious dining-room, giving an abundance of room to carry out our plan, which was as follows:

Seven square tables, each seating four people, were arranged in the dining-room and back parlor. The color scheme of the first table was brown; the second, white; the third, red; the fourth, green; the fifth, yellow; the sixth, pink, and the seventh, silver.

Lunch-cloths were used for covers. The color scheme was carried out, so far as possible, in the decorations—using crêpe-paper for lamp-shades—and flowers and foliage and fancy dishes. The brown table had no flowers, but the creamer and sugar-bowl were of old-fashioned brown china. The other flowers were white carnations, scarlet geraniums, English ivy, yellow chrysanthemums, pink carnations and a silvery-leafed foliage-plant.

When the guests had arrived and the refreshments were ready, two ladies and two gentlemen were seated at the brown table.

The young ladies who served were dressed according to the color scheme, and one in brown brought each person a plate, knife, fork and spoon. Coffee was served here, and brown-bread sandwiches were on the table.

The two ladies and two gentlemen were allowed four minutes at this table, then a bell rang, and to their great surprise and amusement they were told that they must take their plates, silver, coffee and sandwiches and move on to the white table. Here a young girl dressed in white served plain white-bread sandwiches and celery.

Meanwhile four others—that is, two ladies and two gentlemen—were being served at the brown table.

After four minutes at the white table the bell rang again, and the two couples moved on to the red table, where cold ham and corned beef were served.

Next came the green table, on which were pickles, salads, etc., and after this the yellow table, at which gold cake and ice-cream were served. At the pink table were pink cakes, and lemon jellies, with fruit. The seventh, or silver, table held a finger-bowl, and a silver dish, into which each person was requested to place his money.

Of course, this plan can be varied in many ways, and the color scheme and table-decorations carried out to suit the convenience of the ladies who are giving the entertainment.

More time might be given at each table, but we found the four minutes about right. For instance, at the brown and white tables the guests had not finished their sandwiches when they moved on to the red table, so they had them to eat with their meats.

This plan of serving needs at least three girls at the brown table, in order that there may be no delay at first. The table must be brushed, clean plates and silver brought on, as well as coffee, and the sandwiches frequently replenished. Two girls for each of the other tables will be sufficient to serve and keep the plates filled.

After the refreshments seven guessing-tables were arranged. On one were faces of noted men; on the second, noted women; on the third, foliage of plants; on the fourth, bottles containing perfumes; on the fifth, advertising pictures (without the print), etc. The sixth table was especially interesting. A large card bore the words, "I am here. Guess who I am," and the table held baby-pictures of several of the committee.

This social was voted a success, and it certainly was so from a financial standpoint.

J. M. Phelps.

CURTAIN-STRIP

The illustration we present to our readers is a very pretty design for curtains. This could be made during the winter.

BATTENBERG CENTER

A very pretty deviation from the usual center is to use point de esprit net as a center. The whole piece laid over a delicate color makes a very pretty showing.

Simplicity of Style is the key-note of the gowns for the coming season. The drop-yoke, which is characteristic of the season's preference, has an air of simplicity, and whether it is on a waist or a blouse, the broad expanse of chest thus produced heightens, as well as aids, the new bust effect.

These new drop-yokes produce the effect of very drooping shoulders, and are shown in many instances among the newest models with the yoke of all-over lace extending over the sleeves. Bodices of this character require very careful fitting, with the adjustment of the material carefully worked out so that the lines and curves will be retained as in the original model.—The Delineator.

THE CLEAR PIPE TONE OF THE FARRAND ORGAN

In the selection of an Organ for the home particular attention should be given to the tone of the instrument. It is not enough that the notes should be sounded so as to be recognizable. That may be done to a certain extent on a home-made whistle. What is wanted, and may be procured to-day, is an instrument which gives a full, clear tone, a delight in itself, independent of the particular selection of music rendered. To the production of such a tone the Farrand Organ Company of Detroit, Michigan, has given many years of study and labor and has expended large sums of money in experiments. To-day the Company prides itself upon the fact that its Organs all possess that clear, round, inspiring Cathedral tone, so rich and echoing, a result which no other manufacturers of household Organs have achieved. Such a beautiful tone, so full of melody, adds immeasurably to the pleasure derived from an Organ. It gives to even the simplest and most familiar pieces a new meaning, and reveals sweetness in expression which had not before appealed to the ear.

The Farrand Organ Company has employed for a number of years fourteen of the most expert tuners in the country in developing and perfecting this pipe tone. The head tuner has had an experience of thirty-four years at this work and has been with the Farrand Organ Company for fourteen years.

Before selecting an Organ be sure to listen to the pipe tone of the Farrand. It is unequaled for ease of action and durability.

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to wash as clean as can be done on the washboard, even to the wristbands and collar of the dirtiest shirt, and with much more ease. This applies to Terriff's Perfect Washer, which will be sent on trial at wholesale price. If not satisfactory, money will be refunded. AGENTS WANTED. For exclusive territory, terms and prices, write
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What Goes Up

MUST COME DOWN

Nothing is more certain than that the use of so-called tonics, stimulants and medicines, which depend upon alcohol for their effect, is injurious to health in the long run.

What goes up must come down, and the elevation of spirits, the temporary exhilaration resulting from a dose of medicine containing alcohol, will certainly be followed in a few hours by a corresponding depression, to relieve which another dose must be taken.

In other words, many liquid patent medicines derive their effect entirely from the alcohol they contain.

Alcohol and medicines containing it are temporary stimulants, and not in any sense a true tonic. In fact, it is doubtful if any medicine or drug is a real tonic.

A true tonic is something which will renew, replenish, build up the exhausted nervous system and wasted tissues of the body, something that will enrich the blood and endow it with the proper proportions of red and white corpuscles, which prevent or destroy disease germs. This is what a real tonic should do, and no drug or alcoholic stimulant *will* do it.

The only true tonic in nature is wholesome food thoroughly digested. Every particle of nervous energy, every minute muscle, fiber and drop of blood is created daily from the food we digest.

The mere eating of food has little to do with the repair of waste tissue, but the perfect digestion of the food eaten has *everything* to do with it.

The reason so few people have perfect digestion is because from wrong habits of living the stomach has gradually lost the power to secrete the gastric juice, peptones and acids in sufficient quantity.

To cure indigestion and stomach troubles it is necessary to take after meals some harmless preparation which will supply the natural peptone and diastase which every weak stomach lacks, and probably the best preparation of this character is Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, which may be found in every drug-store, and which contain in pleasant, palatable form the wholesome peptone and diastase which nature requires for prompt digestion.

One or two of these excellent tablets taken after meals will prevent souring, fermentation and acidity, and insure complete digestion and assimilation.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are equally valuable for little children as for adults, as they contain nothing harmful or stimulating, but only the natural digestives.

One of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets will digest 1,800 grains of meat, eggs or other wholesome food, and they are in every sense a genuine tonic, because they bring about in the only natural way a restoration of nerve power, a building up of lost tissue and appetite, in the only way it can be done —*by the digestion and assimilation of wholesome food.*

For all who have weak Lungs

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming the paper.

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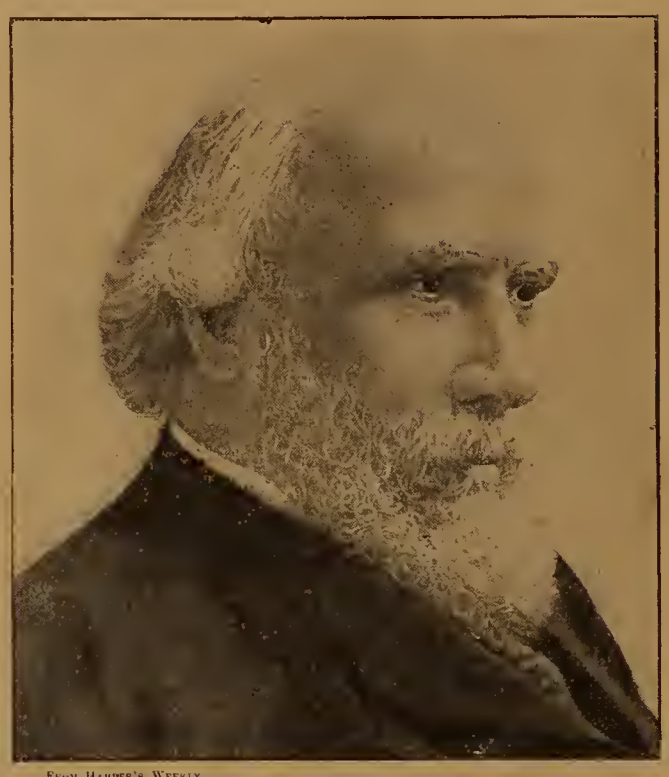
New Pacific Liners and Cargo

By WILLIAM N. BREWSTER

THAT modern seer of commerce and empire-builder, Mr. James J. Hill, has done nothing during his entire career to prove his title of "Commercial Prophet of the Twentieth Century" more significant than his decision to build the four largest freight-steamers afloat, to run from the Pacific terminals of his great transcontinental roads to the Orient. Each one of these ocean leviathans, registering twenty-eight thousand tons, can carry two thirds of a daily ration of flour for the whole American nation. If each of the four makes five voyages annually they could carry to the hungry millions of Asiatics flour equal to a fortnight's consumption of the best-fed and most powerful nation on earth. Such a bold, almost reckless, commercial enterprise, while it challenges admiration, must needs give us pause.

The cautious man with the hard head shakes it skeptically, and says, "Those big steamers will have to carry



FROM HARPER'S WEEKLY

JAMES J. HILL

as much coal as they will have cargo for a good while. Those Asiatics are too poor to eat American food, and too uncivilized to want our manufactures." I grant that a strong case can be made out, arguing theoretically upon lines of accepted political economy, why poverty-stricken China cannot be a large buyer of American products. But fact is better than fancy, and truth better than theory; and whether the Chinese can afford to buy American food and clothing or not, the fact is that they are doing it in ever-increasing quantity, and the Chinese merchant is notoriously good pay.

What will Mr. Hill's big steamers find to fill them? First and foremost, of course, will be wheat—that staple of the country traversed by the two Great Northern railroads. But it must be made into flour in America. There are no roller flour-mills in China except one in Shanghai. Indeed, it is the superior milling that has much to do with creating the demand for the American article. The great mills of Washington and Oregon, run by water-power, produce a flour much cleaner, whiter and more easily preserved than the Chinese can possibly make with their heavy burrs grinding against each other, as the cow with characteristic deliberation drags the great granite upper stone around. Ten years ago no American flour could be purchased in this part of China outside of the open ports of Foochow and Amoy. Now it is for sale at all large market towns, and demand for it is rapidly increasing. Enlarge and cheapen the transportation facilities, and a steady and rapid growth in the consumption of American flour by the Chinese is as certain as any future contingency in commerce. At any rate, there is as great certainty of this market increasing as that the wheat-production of the Northwest will continue to grow for many years to come. This enlarged production must find an outlet, and Mr. Hill's new line of ocean carriers will furnish the transport, while the Mongolian stomach may be relied upon to provide a market that can scarcely be glutted.

But flour will not be the only cargo. No people in the world are so fond of pork as the Chinese. To be sure, the average laboring man in China cannot afford to indulge very freely his appetite in this direction. He uses it for lard and as a relish with his rice. One ounce a day is a liberal supply. But John Chinaman is so numerous that even at that rate he probably consumes more of the Jews' abomination than even America herself. He pays well for it, too. In our kitchen we now use "vegetole" from Chicago, because it costs less than to buy native pork and render our own lard. Live hogs are cheaper in Chicago than here in Hinghua, and they are shipped by the junk-load from here to Amoy, where the price is always considerably higher. In view of these facts it is reasonable to expect that if American pork-packers would study carefully into the question of how to prepare their output for the China trade, in a few years Chicago pork would be as readily purchased along this coast as Washington flour now is.

Cotton is another great staple that is indispensable to the Celestial from the cradle to the grave. While it is certain that the Isthmian Canal will in time carry this Southern product to the Orient, yet until that waterway is open it is evident that this Northern route will be made so attractive to shippers that King Cotton will have large space reserved for him and his suite in every voyage of the new liners.

When we come to speculating upon the probable creation of new wants in China by the provision of an available supply we are upon very uncertain ground, and it is not very prudent to prophesy with much dogmatic certainty. But is it not reasonable to expect that corn, the cheapest food in the world, will become a part of the diet of these four hundred millions? What they want is to be filled. The pleasing of their palate is altogether secondary. Nor has it ever had a chance to be cultivated so as to become at all tyrannical. Corn-meal is hard to keep, so that it is not practicable; but hominy is good until used, it is boiled like the Chinese cook their rice, it is no less tasteless than that staple, and it is more nourishing. When corn brings twenty-five cents a bushel in America, it is but one third of the average price of rice in this part of China. That leaves a wide margin for the hominy-mill and transportation, and still gives it a chance to undersell its competitor. It would cost comparatively little for Mr. Hill's great corporation to test thoroughly the practicability of introducing hominy as a rival of rice in the Chinese market, and, to the superficial observer at least, it looks as though there might be millions in it, both for the producer and the consumer.

And what more shall I say, for time would fail to tell of the railroad iron and rolling-stock, the mining-tools and machinery which China is sure to want in almost limitless quantities by the time these steamers are ready to carry them. These things the New China cannot do without, and America produces them cheaper and better than anywhere else. There is already an enormous trade in petroleum. If the California oil can be properly refined, this one article would keep a line of ordinary steamers busy.

There is no doubt about the filling of these mighty floating reservoirs on the outward passage, but there is a serious question about cargo when homeward bound. A big ship steaming five thousand miles on ballast is an expensive toy. Silk is not bulky enough to cut much of a figure in transportation, and Chinese tea has been steadily losing in competition with improved methods in India and Ceylon. The tea season is not long. China must adopt modern methods of tea-production before this cargo can fill up many steamers of twenty-eight thousand tons for more than a voyage or two each year. It will take at least one decade, and perhaps two, to bring about a revolution in the tea industry of China. The fact is that China produces comparatively little that the rest of the world wants. Ignorance and superstition, supplemented by the worst government on earth, always excepting the "unspeakable Turk," have kept down production, while consumption always reaches beyond the native supply, making the balance of trade steadily and heavily against China.

But the case is not hopeless. There is one great staple in the production of which China leads the world. Rice is grown here as wheat in the Dakotas or corn in Illinois, as far as the eye can see. It is the staple food for all classes throughout the central and southern provinces. Outside of China it is by no means a cheap food, but here prices range at from one third to one fourth of American quotations. The reason is not far to seek. The exportation of rice from China is prohibited. There is only home competition to regulate the price. This simple fact is very far-reaching in its effects upon the commercial and social life of the nation. It is a leading cause of the very low wages paid to all classes of labor. Five or six cents for unskilled labor, and double that for artisans, is a rate of pay that is degrading anywhere. If rice were allowed to assume its normal price in the world's market, Chinese labor would of necessity soon double its rate of wages. This would make China a far better customer for all foreign goods, and more prosperous.

Of course, the argument of the Chinese statesman is to him conclusive, that the exportation of the chief article of the people's food would leave them without enough to eat. The reply to that is simple enough. It does not pay for a poor man to eat rice that he might sell for three dollars a hundredweight, and with half of the cash received from the sale buy an equal quantity of the best hominy. In the early days a pioneer settler in the Ohio forests might use curled walnut logs for his cabin, but no farmer would do so to-day. He sells his fine wood, and builds his house of pine. Chinese rice is artificially cheap, but its intrinsic value is what it would be worth in the world's market. Our short-sighted Chinese deceive themselves into thinking they are eating a cheap article because they pay a small price for it. An enormous balance of trade might be secured for China by exchanging rice for American corn and wheat. The people of both countries would be better fed and more prosperous.

The government at Washington is now "persona grata" to the Chinese rulers. It would be easy to get their favorable attention to any proposition the Great Republic might make. Why not ask China to allow the exportation of rice? A too excessive and rapid rise in the price of rice in China because of foreign purchases could be easily prevented by an export duty, which would materially aid this bankrupt country in its hour of need. That argument might be more effective with Peking statesmen just now than all others. But whatever be the arguments, the logic of events certainly points to a removal of this Chinese wall of exclusion in the not distant future, and American Pacific liners will be loaded to the port-holes when homeward as well as outward bound.

Hinghua, Fuhkien Province, China.

As Thou hast made Thy world without
  Make Thou more fair my world within;
Shine through its lingering clouds of doubts;
  Rebuke its haunting shapes of sin;
Fill, brief or long, my granted span
Of life with love to Thee and man;
Strike when Thou wilt the hour of rest,
But let my last days be my best!

—Whittier.

Sunday Reading

GETTING THE WORST

A boy came to the door of a lady's house, and asked if she did not wish some berries, for he had been out all day gathering them.

"Yes," said the lady, "I will take them." She took the basket, and stepped into the house, the boy remaining outside, whistling to some canary-birds hanging in their cages on the porch.

"Why don't you come in and see that I measure your berries right?" said the lady. "How do you know but that I may cheat you?"

"I am not afraid," said the boy, "for you would get the worst of it."

"Get the worst of it?" said the lady. "What do you mean by that?"

"Why, ma'am," said the boy, "I should lose only my berries, and you would make yourself a thief. Don't you think that would be getting the worst of it?"

The boy was right. He who steals or does anything wrong or mean just to gain a few pence or a few shillings burdens himself with a sin which is worse than all the gain. Let this be borne in mind—the one who does a wrong to another always gets the worst of it.—Brethren Evangelist.

WHICH IS OF MORE CONSEQUENCE?

The little fellow that came to our house about eight years ago, and ever since has slept with us and eaten at our table, whose school-reports we sign, and whom we call "Boy," recently came tramping through the hall, leaving tracks of mud on the lately cleaned carpets. I saw him, and yelled, "Oh, Boy, get out there!"

He ran out wounded.

I went back to the library. I thought of the little fellow, now out in the orchard, hurt by my harsh words. Which was of more value, the carpet or the boy? Why, I would have burned up a hundred carpets rather than have anything happen to that boy. But here I was hurting him and destroying my influence over him—and all for a little mud.

I know a woman who said she planned to keep abreast of her husband in intellectual work. I remarked that it must be difficult while she had so much housework. She straightened up, and said, "I am of much more consequence than my house."

The French have a proverb, "He was born a man, but died a merchant." That wouldn't make very good reading, would it? He was born a man, but died a clerk or a manufacturer; was born a woman, but died a housekeeper or a teacher.

Mud or the Boy, to which shall we pay attention?—Sydney Strong.

LIFE AND SORROW

"I said to Sorrow, 'Thou and I shall part;
Hereafter I must seek the open way,
Before the wine of life leaves dry my heart,
That I some destined eve to Death may say,
"The cup is drained, so welcome now thou art;
Deep did I drink, and I have had my day!"'

"Alone in her dark chamber Sorrow wept,
And I went forth by field and fragrant lane,
And reached a wondrous garden Pleasure kept
In that fair land where never fell the rain;
And gaily down to me this woman stept
Between her roses, and I laughed again.

"I was most happy in that land of flowers,
Only at times the old life I had known—
As in the night the sound of passing showers—
Some far and deep autumnal undertone
Awoke and flashed across the languid hours,
Where I still watched, unhappily alone.

"Entombed amid a thousand roses there
I stood walled round by towers I could not see;
But still the keeper of that garden fair
Laughed at my fears, and still withheld the key.
Then wept I for some little cross to bear,
And Sorrow came by night, and set me free!"

—Arthur Stringer, in Ainslee's.

THE CONSERVATION OF ENERGY

The conservation of energy, or, as Herbert Spencer calls it, the persistence of force, is regarded as one of the greatest of scientific discoveries. So economical is Nature that nothing is lost—not an atom of matter, not a molecule of organized being, not a minim of water, not a unit of power. Notwithstanding things are in flux, and the mountains in the presence of the eternal are as the baseless fabric of a vision, yet waste is unknown. The world is constantly changing. Even the bony structure of our bodies is forever wearing a changing robe of soft and gleaming flesh. But nothing is lost. Underlying all forces is one force. Light and heat, electricity and magnetism, chemical affinity and mechanical energy can be transmuted into each other. They are but manifestations of one eternal force.

In chemistry we are reducing the number of elements, and it is the dream of advanced thinkers that we shall yet find one central, universal element of which all others are manifestations. We have the same quantity of energy in the world now as when the first year was numbered by the sun's majestic round. Solid matter may change into gases and ethers; but condense the gases, and the amount of matter is undiminished. The annihilation of this world is scientifically unthinkable. Were you to burn it up as though it were a pile of shavings dipped in turpentine, it would be only changing its form. The sum-total of the primal force would not be reduced. A boulder can be pulverized to dust. By the application of heat the dust can be converted into liquid, and then into vapor to escape the range of our senses. But the boulder has only assumed other forms. In studying this law one cannot refrain from thinking of the probability it affords in favor of continued existence beyond the grave. If particles of carbon and hydrogen are conserved, what of intellects and souls? It required energy to weave the gorgeous tapestry of the Apocalypse, to compose the splendid and impassioned ode on Babylon's downfall, and to write Paul's seraphic hymn to love. Is that conserved? It required energy to produce the dramas of Shakespeare, the symphonies of Beethoven, and the fugues of Bach. Is that dissipated? If the conservation of energy is a universal law, and not limited to the natural realm, then we have strong presumptive evidence in favor of a conscious personal immortality.—J. B. Whitford, in Epworth Herald.

TELLTALE LINES

"I watched that pretty woman the whole evening, and I saw that she was cross and dissatisfied. There were telltale lines about her face that spoiled her beauty."

"Suffering lines, maybe?"

"No; suffering writes one story, and ill-temper writes another. That woman is not a good-tempered person."

The fragment of conversation gave me a text.

Telltale lines are graven on our countenances by emotions which ravage and lay waste our souls. She who would be free from those marks of care and fretfulness which disfigures some middle-aged faces must be neither careworn nor fretful. We are the artists of our own faces; we, not outsiders, by the domination of our thoughts change ourselves from one degree of grace to another, or mar the loveliness we might have. No fretful heart can fail to impress itself on a face that will proclaim fretfulness to all beholders.—Christian Herald.

The Family Physician

By ROBERT B. HOUSE, M.D.

PRACTICAL NOTES

A Georgia farmer made one hundred dollars from an acre of watermelons, and the nearest doctor made two hundred dollars from the same acre.

Dressings that have become strongly adherent by the drying of blood or pus can be rapidly and painlessly removed by saturation with hydrogen peroxid, which rapidly destroys the hardened pus and blood by oxidation.

"The Living Church" quotes this from a Connecticut woman's diary, dated 1790: "We had roast pork for dinner, and Doctor S., who carved, held up a rib on his fork, and said, 'Here, ladies, is what Mother Eve was made of.'

" 'Yes,' said Sister Patty, 'and it's from very much the same kind of critter.' "

Bill Nye once said that John Bright, having discovered the need of "a good, reliable disease for the use of the aristocratic and patrician statesman," began to "sit up nights and perfect Bright's disease." He says of it, "It has been kept out of reach of the poor, and to die of this disease has been regarded as a proud distinction."

RULES FOR DYSPEPTICS

Eat slowly, masticating the food very thoroughly, even more so, if possible, than is required in health. The more time the food spends in the mouth, the less it will spend in the stomach.

Avoid drinking at meals; at most take a few sips of warm drink at the close of the meal if the food is very dry in character.

In general dyspeptic stomachs manage dry food better than that containing much fluid.

Eat neither very hot nor cold food. The best temperature is about that of the body. Avoid exposure to cold after eating.

Be careful to avoid excess in eating. Eat no more than the wants of the system require. Sometimes less than is really needed must be taken when digestion is very weak. Strength depends not on what is eaten, but on what is properly digested.

Never take violent exercise of any sort, either mental or physical, either just before or just after a meal. It is not good to sleep immediately after eating nor within four hours of a meal.

Never eat more than three times a day, and make the last meal very light. For many dyspeptics two meals are better than more.

Never eat a morsel of any sort between meals.

Never eat when very tired, whether exhausted from mental or physical labor.

Never eat when the mind is worried or the temper ruffled, if possible to avoid doing so.

Eat only food that is easy of digestion, avoiding complicated and indigestible dishes, and taking but one to three kinds at a meal.

Most persons will be benefited by the use of oatmeal, wheat-meal, cracked wheat and other whole-grain preparations, though many will find it necessary to avoid vegetables, especially when fruits are taken.—Public Health Journal.

The Family Lawyer

By JUDGE WM. M. ROCKEL

Legal inquiries of general interest from our regular subscribers will be answered in this department free of charge. Querists desiring an immediate answer by mail should remit one dollar, addressed "Law Department," this office.

Lawyer Wanted.—R. B., Illinois, wishes to know: "Who would be a good, safe lawyer to look after an estate in England?" There are probably a number of lawyers who could safely be trusted in such a matter, but the question does not indicate whether it is desired to have a lawyer in the United States or one in England. Better consult a lawyer of your town, who can, by looking in Hubbel's and Martindale's legal directories, find the names of responsible attorneys in almost any place.

Changing a Will.—E. S., Ohio, says: "Some time ago I made a will, and now wish to add some to it. Must I go before an officer, or can I get two witnesses and do it myself?" All that is necessary is that the change be made in such a way that it will plainly appear on the will that it is a change, and have two witnesses attest the signature in the same manner that the original will was made. Better consult a competent lawyer and have it done right, for remember a great deal of litigation is caused by faulty wills.

Inheritance—Note.—L. B., Connecticut, inquires: "A widow with a minor child marries a childless widower in March, 1877. They have no children. What portion of her real estate and personal property would her child inherit at her death?——If a daughter holds a note against a mother, can she collect after her mother's death? What portion does a wife hold in her husband's property and he of her property when there are no heirs, being married in October, 1893?" There has been some change in the Connecticut laws, and from the information at hand I would say that all the real estate would go to the child at her death, and that her personal property would be held by the husband as long as he lives, and then would go to her child.——The note can be collected if given for a valuable consideration and not barred by the statute of limitation. Of marriages contracted since April 20, 1877, the survivor is entitled to the use for life of one third in value of all property owned by the other at his or her death after payment of debts.

Failure to Perform Contract.—Farmer, Pennsylvania, asks: "During March A. sold a piece of land to B. Part was to be paid cash, the balance in payments secured by note. A. had deed written and acknowledged. B. called and paid part of first payment, for which A. gave receipt, stating part-payment on property. B. promised to call and finish first payment in a week, and give security for balance, and receive deed. B. has failed to come around with balance of first payment, or give any information as to what he intends to do. A. has notified B. to come and close up the business, but has not heard anything from B. In the meantime B. has collected some rent from property, and made some small improvement. What will be necessary for A. to do to regain control of his property? Can B. hold the property if A. wishes to retain the property now?" A. cannot get possession of the property without entering a suit of ejectment. If B.'s failure has been a substantial noncompliance with the contract he has forfeited his right to a deed, and cannot hold the property; but, being in possession, it would require an action at law to determine the rights of the parties.

Only Two

By ELLIOT WALKER

It was very pleasant to sit on the board seat in the crotch of the old willow, and read and dream away the drowsy summer afternoons. So thought Genevieve Dean, who had sought the restful seclusion of an isolated farm-house, attracted by a curious advertisement in a metropolitan daily, which had caught her eye two weeks before. "This is certainly unique," she had laughed, as she read:

SEEKERS OF REST

in a quiet home may be accommodated, at reasonable rates, during July and August. We can only take two. Write for particulars.

Mrs. Harvey Pettee.

Broadmeadow, Hillville, Mass.

"I think I must look that up," pondered Miss Dean, as she snipped the clipping from the paper, "'Only two!' I shall not be crowded. 'Broadmeadow and Hillville' are rather incongruous, but attractive. 'Seekers of Rest'—I'm one, surely!—'quiet home, reasonable rates,' and 'only two.' I'll write this minute. This is either pure simplicity or pure duplicity. If it's 'too' restful I won't stay."

Ten days later Genevieve Dean—orphan, spinster, and teacher of music by profession—removed her cramped limbs from a tumble-down stage in front of a most comfortable-looking, but rather ancient, farm-house on the Woodcock road, four miles from the railroad-station at Hillville. The only stage-passenger, and shut off from conversation with the driver by a heavy, ill-smelling leather curtain buttoned across the aperture in front, she was beginning to pine for some kind of society. The sweet breath of the wayside grasses and the clear mountain breeze cheered and invigorated her, but she was very tired after her long, dusty car-ride. Drinking in long breaths of the pure air, she felt her pulses thrill with that sense of freedom and relief from city occupation which always comes to the real Nature-lover when once again freed from the enchaining demands of places and people, to absorb with infinite satisfaction the medicines of air, sight and sound, so bountifully supplied by the great Mother Nature.

She paid the driver, who proceeded to take down her trunk from the rear of the vehicle, where it had banged along in company with a barrel of flour, a sack of meal and divers agricultural implements. What a good old country stage cannot carry is something to be noted.

"Here comes Mis' Pettee," he remarked, and Genevieve turned to meet her landlady.

Such a charming little old lady was coming timidly through the gate. All about the clean muslin cap bobbed short, soft white curls. Her cheeks were as pink as a child's, and her eyes as bright and blue as a young girl's. Wrinkles there were, for she was far advanced in years, but the sweetness and welcome of her smile lighted up her face like a ray of morning sun, and her step was springy and firm as she walked up to her guest and held out a soft, small hand. Somehow she made Miss Dean feel old. "Perpetual youth at last," she said to herself. "I'd like to eat her. I'll kiss her, anyway—I just can't help it." She held the bit of a hand in both her gloved ones, and stooping, implanted a hearty kiss on one of the pink cheeks. The old lady blushed very pinkly, and looked much pleased.

"Thank you, my dear," she said, simply; "welcome to Broadmeadow. Here you shall find rest and refreshment, cleanliness and comfort, a—a—good bed, and—and all you can eat—and—" She stopped, and pealed out a silvery old laugh. "I can't say my speech—I thought I had it at my tongue's end—Harvey and I made it up for a greeting—we thought that would be the way—and now I've spoiled it. We never took any boarders before, you know," she added, apologetically, in her gentle, quavering voice. "I suppose you would like to go right up to your room, my dear. It looks to the east—right out toward the river. I hope you'll like it—and I hope you'll like us."

"I know I shall!" cried Miss Dean, heartily, as they started toward the house.

"Bring the lady's trunk right in, Sam," called Mrs. Pettee to the driver.

"Yes'm," was the reply, and the man touched his old straw hat respectfully.

"Well," thought Genevieve, "that's more politeness than he has seen fit to favor me with on the whole trip." The tall, graceful, city-bred woman bent her deep, gray eyes on the pure old face beside her. "The beauty of age," she mused. "I have heard of it, but never dreamed I should find it. I'm glad to know it exists. Could I ever grow old like that?"

"Here's your room," said Mrs. Pettee. Opening a door near the head of the stairs, she led the way, and looked anxiously at her guest. "I hope you'll be comfortable."

"Comfortable!" cried Genevieve. "Why, it's a dream!" She gazed rapturously at her surroundings. The quaint, old-fashioned furniture shone with many rubbings, the great, comfortable bed, the easy-chairs, lounge, writing-table—all indicated such a care for her welfare that she was quite overwhelmed. From the wide windows she caught glimpses of meadow and mountain. Her feet sank noiselessly in the soft in-grain carpet.

"For 'Seekers of Rest,'" she whispered, moving quietly about. "It's lovely! Such a large room, too! Oh, how I shall hate to go home!" she said aloud, and sighed, all forgetful of her companion, as she thought of her small, noisy apartment in the city boarding-house.

The old lady slipped out of the chamber noiselessly. "I'll leave her alone a little. She'll come down when she gets ready," she said to herself. "I'm glad she's pleased. Isn't she a lovely young lady? Harvey will have to wear his coat at meals if it is hot weather!"

In half an hour Miss Dean made her appearance, looking cool and sweet in her fresh white dress, to be ushered by her landlady into the presence of a venerable man, who rose stiffly from a great wooden chair and made obeisance. His snowy hair fell to his shoulders, and his long white beard rolled down upon his broad chest, but his dark eyes were still bright, and his smile still young. His tall form was stooped with the weight of years, but his voice was strong with that ring which holds to the voices of men whose vocal chords have long been exercised in the open air. He held out a great hand, and looked at his wife.

"Mr Pettee, Miss Dean!" said the old lady, with much formality.

"Pleased ter meet yer, Miss Dean. Make yerself ter hum. Do jest what yer like. Come an' go as ye've a mind ter," remarked Harvey Pettee, cordially, beaming upon the guest with great friendliness. "Thet's the way fer a city gal ter enjoy the kentry. Amy—I mean Mis' Pettee—will look arter yer. She looks arter everybody. Lookin' arter folks agrees with her. Look at them cheeks!" He waved his hand to his wife, and sat down with some difficulty.

"Now, Harvey, you stop!" expostulated that lady. "What will Miss Dean think to hear old folks like us talk that way?"

Mr. Pettee laughed loudly. "It's true, ever' word on't. They're like pink briers—ain' they, Miss Dean?"

"They are, indeed," said Genevieve, smiling. "They are the most beautiful cheeks I ever saw. How does she ever keep them?"

"Iles 'em with buttermilk, prob'ly," observed the old man, giving Genevieve an almost loving look, followed by a wink.

"I don't," cried his better half, and she fled to the kitchen.

Genevieve Dean drew a chair to the old man's side, and sat down.

"Tell me about her," she said, in her quiet, firm way. "I have never seen any one like her. She is wonderful."

Harvey Pettee looked at her shrewdly, and appeared satisfied with his scrutiny. "It's a romanst," he observed. "Mind ef I smoke?"

"Not a bit," replied Genevieve.

He filled an old brierwood pipe, and smoked serenely. "She's one o' the Lord's anointed," he began, "an' my second wife. We've been married only sixteen years. She's seventy-five, an' I'm nigh onter eighty. Don't seem so. Got more sense than any other woman I ever see. She's strong, an' then again she ain't. She can't do hard work; I never let her. Does it all with her head. Allus doin' an' allus helpin'—never see her beat. I'm purty well fixed—an' we're jest takin' boarders this summer ter please her. She's kinder lonesome without no young folks 'round. I had two darters an' a son by my fust wife—all married now. I've got two boys ter run the farm, an' a good woman ter help. I kin afford it. She never had no children. It were this away—how she come ter marry me! Air yer int'rested?"

"Oh, yes—go on!" cried Genevieve.

"Wall, arter Huldy died—she were a fine woman, an' a worker; we was both workers, an' made an' saved, but she were more like a man in sum ways—ennyway, she died, an' I was unconsol'ble. When she was a-layin' in thet room, o' course folks come in ter console me, an' who should appear like an angel o' light but Amy Berry. There didn't happen ter be no one else 'round jest at thet time. She jest slipped in an' put her soft little hand onter mine, an' talked ter me a spell. I hadn't seen her fer years. When she was gone, things come back ter me—the singin'-school an' prayer-meetin's an' one kiss she gin me years an' years ago, an' a row we had 'bout a city feller, an' then we quit goin' tergether. I was awful cut up, I remember, an' went over ter York State, an' was gone ten years—married Huldy over there an' come back here an' bought this farm. I heard tell o' Amy Berry—guess I see her once or twice—I ferget. Her folks died, an' left her a little prop'ty, an' all her life she jest teached little children—had a school ter her house, an' was allus doin' an' helpin' an' keepin' young.

"Wall, I couldn't get her outen my mind. A month arter the funeral I was over ter Hillville, an' I went ter see her. Never thought o' marryin'—never occurred ter me thet she'd hev me—an' eddicated lady like her, an' me talkin' like a hired man. I jest went ter be consoled.

"I dunno how it come 'bout. I kep' a-goin', an' bimeby I waked up ter find thet I was jest where I was in the old days—only fifteen times as bad. I says to myself, 'Fool! stay ter hum, an' don't git any wuss.' I stayed ter hum two weeks, an' I went well-nigh crazy. I had ter see her. So I went once more—wasn't goin' ter say anything, yer know—jest goin' ter see her. It was 'most dark when I got ter her house, an' she was a-settin' on the steps. I walked up an' was goin' ter say, 'Good-evenin',' but I declar fer it my mouth all dried up jest as I opened it, an' I made a hidjus sort o' noise—a gasp like. Amy, she got right up an' took one clus look at me, then she throwed both her soft little arms 'round me, an' says, 'Harvey, it's come at last!' an' it had. It had come fer both o' us, fer it seems she had never loved no man but me—all those years she had waited fer me, old, rough, uneddicated me.

"Fer five minutes I set on those steps an' swallered, an' I give yer my word now, we ain't neither o' us been over twenty years old sence as fer as hearts is concerned. What kin a young gal like you know 'bout love? Wait till ye're eighty!"

He was laughing now, to hide a suspicious moisture in his old eyes, and Genevieve was laughing, too, for the same reason.

"I'm thirty," she said. "They call me an old maid. I'm glad you told me this—it has helped me."

"Sho!" observed Harvey Pettee. "Dunno how I come ter tell yer so much. Must have been somethin' in yer thet drawed it out. You ain't no ordinary gal. Here comes Amy. Don't yer let on!"

"Supper will be ready in about half an hour," said the old wife, coming in. "If you want anything before, just say so. I suppose you had something to eat at noon."

"Yes, I had lunch on the cars," replied Genevieve. "I'd rather wait."

Days slipped along. The bountiful country fare and the silent, health-giving nights were bringing a tinge of color to the pale face of the music-teacher, while the refreshing simplicity and rural wisdom of the two old lovers softened and renewed her spirit. It was Father and Mother Pettee now, and they petted and coddled the lonely woman until she laughingly said they would spoil her sphere of usefulness and make her a baby again.

Down by the little mountain river, which tossed and tumbled from the hills to spread in long, clean reaches through the meadow-land, a few ancient willow-trees still braved the seasons. In one, close by the edge of the stream, a rustic seat of boards was her favorite retreat, and the companionship of the birds, squirrels and water songs soothed and refreshed her soul. It was not such a hard world, after all, if only one could get to the right places.

More than a week had passed, when one morning Mr. Pettee made a startling announcement. "The other one's comin' ter-night, an' we kin take out our notice now. He says all he wants is ter fish an' sleep an' be let alone. Guess he won't be much bother."

"Oh, dear," cried Genevieve, "is a man coming? Well—I'll let him alone. I never thought of a man."

"He won't trouble yer, honey," said old Harvey. "Ef he does he kin pack an' git out. He's a quiet man, I jedge from his letter, an' not a young feller."

"Where's the 'other one?'" asked Genevieve that evening at supper. "Didn't he come?"

"He's up in his room asleep, poor man!" answered Mrs. Pettee. "He says he's all tired out, and looks it. I made him some valerian-tea. He acted real cranky at first, but he's a very gentlemanly man, and nice in his ways. He apologized for seeming cross."

"Said his narves were unstringed," broke in Harvey. "'I'll be all right,' he says; 'lemme be!' Good-lookin', big feller."

The "other one" kept much to himself for a few days; in fact, Genevieve hardly saw him. Off before breakfast with his rod, spending whole days on the brook, coming home at dark, tired and hungry, to be fussed over by his gentle old hostess, who alone seemed to interest him. Thawing out gradually, and losing his tired, discontented look, he began to talk a little and to show some signs of a disposition to be more sociable. But there was a bitter cynicism about him—a general air of non-belief in everything—which both repelled and attracted Genevieve.

"Crossed in love, probably," she thought. "Hope so! He won't bother me, then."

No! Winfield Denton "bothered" no one, but kept the table supplied with trout, which was quite an addition. One afternoon Genevieve was sitting half asleep in her willow. Suddenly the tall form of the stranger bent over her.

"Why!" she cried, "Mr. Denton, you quite startled me!"

"I'm sorry," he said. "I thought you saw me. Let me lie down on the grass here, and talk a little." His voice was deep and melodious, and his rare smile very pleasant. He stretched his long limbs comfortably where he could lie and look up at her.

"I'm putting in all the fishing I can this month," he remarked. "The law goes on the first of August in this state. I thought of leaving then—but I never have found so restful a spot, and I think I'll stay on."

"It's a dear place," said Genevieve. "I can't bear to think of going back to the city—and the old folks are already very much to me. I shall stay until September; it's a good way off yet."

"Miss Dean," observed the prostrate fisherman, busying himself with his reel, "I wonder if you would understand if I told you something? You are so quiet and sensible that I have an idea you might."

"I might," answered the girl, smiling, "if it isn't very deep."

"Well," went on the man, "it's just this: I came to this place because I was sick of people. To tell the truth, I have, or had, a growing distrust and contempt for every one. I have been about a good deal—always a bachelor, with no home ties. I'm able to

travel. I thought I had loads of good friends. Now, a report somehow was started a year ago that I had lost in a mining scheme every penny I owned. Well, you should have seen my friends skip—even people I'd known all my life and befriended had no earthly use for me any more. No one snubbed me exactly, but I swear I did not know where to turn. I was dazed. And the old folks were the worst of all. The report was absolutely without foundation, but I never said a word. I kept up a thinking, though, and mapped out a plan. I gave up my rooms, and went to a boarding-house—not a very good one, either—and rented desk-room in an office to pretend I was trying to do something. Then I began to call around. It was amusing the way I was received. I talked poverty and hard luck, and they shivered. I will say a few seemed sorry, but none cared for my society, and yet I had been popular in a quiet way.

"My faith in human nature was pretty badly shaken, Miss Dean. I grew cynical and bitter. Then I arranged to have it get out that it was all a mistake, and that my fortune was intact. You should have seen them! They fairly fell over each other in their endeavors to show their undying regard. Of course, I accepted it all, but my eyes were opened. I view the whole lot of them as a set of mercenary hypocrites, and I guess they deserve it. I have always tried to believe in sentiment in its best sense, but now," he paused and sighed, "well," he resumed, "I came here on account of a remarkable advertisement I saw in a paper—there was a touch of simple human nature in it. I thought I'd look it up, and I'm glad I did. These two old country people have shown me that there is still something in my old notions. They are a balm to my wounded spirit. To them those in trouble are the ones who appeal for care, sympathy and constant kindness. Mother Pettee! I'm a young orphan—only thirty-six—I wonder if she wouldn't like to adopt me?"

He smiled, and stopped speaking, as he stretched on the grass, looking up at the sky, and thinking. Genevieve was silent. She was thinking, too, of many hard years and cold shoulders, of struggles and heart-burnings and bitter thoughts.

"I can sympathize with you, Mr. Denton," she said presently. "When I came here I felt much the same. I wanted to get away from people and find rest. I have but little use for my fellow-creatures, I'm afraid. There are some exceptions, but the general run are all self. Thank goodness, I'm quite independent now, but it's hard working up. Do you know the Pettee romance?" she added.

"No!" replied Denton, curiously.

So she told him old Harvey's story.

"Good!" he exclaimed. "That's just like her!"

"You must get the old man to tell it to you in his own words some time. I cannot begin to do it justice," resumed the girl. "It really touched me very deeply. What a religion it must be to love like that! I suppose every woman has it in her heart to clothe some man with as near a perfect tenderness as her nature holds. I don't care how good she is, or how bad, for that matter, she will give all she can if the right man comes into her life; and no matter how unworthy he may prove, she will wrap the cloak of her great affection about him, always forgiving and hoping, looking at him as what he might be, and not as what he is."

She was gazing up at the willow-leaves rustling in the soft air, and speaking as if to herself.

Denton looked at her queerly. "No!" he thought, "she is delightfully unconscious."

"Go on!" he said aloud. "I feel like listening. You were saying?"

Genevieve looked down, and smiled. "I hardly know what I was saying. I had Mother Pettee and Nancy Sykes and—and others in my mind all jumbled up. I was giving way to a 'flight,' I guess."

"Perhaps you were one of the company," said Denton, softly.

"Possibly," was the answer. "I don't remember where I came in, though," she laughed. "I'm a regular goose down here in my willow sometimes," she added, apologetically. "I talk to myself, and lately I have thought so much about our good old friends that I fear I may get almost sentimental. It will soon get knocked out of me, though, when I return to my work. I am a most practical person, Mr. Denton, when I am in harness. I shall look back upon these days with a hard amusement, I fear, by and by."

"No you won't," responded the man; "'these days' will always be a fragrant spot in your memory, and you will always be true to them."

"Why—you are quite disposed to sentiment yourself! I should not have suspected it," smiled Miss Dean.

"I have it in me," said Denton, simply, "and if anything brings out a bit of it I invariably feel better for it. I am apt to brag about being hard and practical myself, and I confess to a notion that we both have done so much of the stifling process that we are self-deceived regarding the latent activity of our soft spots."

"It is nearly supper-time—we must go up to the house," murmured Genevieve. "I have enjoyed this little talk. Call again, Mr. Denton, when you are fishing by," she added, laughing.

"Seems ter me our boarders is gittin' acquainted, Amy," remarked Mr. Pettee. "See 'em comin' up the medder?"

His wife bobbed her white curls approvingly. "They are just in time for my shortcake," she said. "Don't they look well together? Wouldn't it be nice now if—"

"If yer go ter makin' matches among yer boarders it may cause trouble," said her husband, warningly. "Yer think becus we're in love everybody orter be. I guess them two is cut out fer single people. Dunno 'bout the gal. She's got real 'fectionit lately."

The stroll along the country road in the moonlight that evening was devoted to most sensible conversation, and there was no reason why the two staid guests should have shaken hands so cordially when they bade each other good-night.

Nor was there any reason why Miss Dean should look forward to the morrow with unusually pleasant anticipation. Surely all days were about alike.

And Winfield Denton came home very early from his fishing the next forenoon. "The sun was too bright," he said.

But it was not too bright to stroll off through the meadows with Genevieve after dinner.

"Harvey," observed his gentle better half, "I see signs."

"Don't yer be lookin' fer signs, Amy," was the response. "Yer'll say somethin' fust yer know, an' they never thinkin' o' sech a thing."

Mr. Pettee was right. His boarders were not thinking of such a thing. Each had recognized in the other a congenial soul—that was all.

The days shone along—the sunrises and sunsets—the sweet freshness of the mountains seemed daily of an added charm to Genevieve. She had never felt so well or so happy. And yet the mornings found her now with a bitter pang that would come as she thought of the old hard life looming nearer each day.

Then, too, she had a queer, uneasy feeling for which she could not account. "I am going to miss everything so—that is it!" she decided. "Mr. Denton, too!"

Yes, she would quite miss Mr. Denton. He had grown to be a real companion, and he was so thoughtful and kind.

The face reflected by the little mirror was very attractive even if the gray eyes thought otherwise, and there was no cause for that sad shake of the head and the scornful whisper, "Too old!"

Too old for what? Certainly not too old to lighten the features of the man walking drearily in the ancient garden, muttering to himself, "She does not see! She cannot care!"

The good days were almost over. The girl hung about the Pettees as if feeding upon the tender ways of the old couple, even as a hungry bee hovers and dips into the heart of a rose, and cannot leave it. A great yearning had sprung up in her soul—a constant cry for the little word and glance and sympathetic expression of loving kindness, and the elderly pair gave them to her freely. It comforted her for the moment, and she thought it was all she needed.

But down in her old seat, by the brook's bank, when the shadow of the man fell upon her, and she looked up into his eyes, Genevieve knew it was not all. And she knew, also, that her face had told what it was to the hungry eyes that gave so much and asked so much, for the man's cheeks went white, and he staggered as if struck.

So she had reached out her hand, and he had clasped it in both his own, and had knelt for her benediction, where she sat in the old willow-tree.

"Harvey!" cried Amy late on that afternoon, "look quick, before they let go!"

Harvey looked. Their two boarders were coming up the meadow path hand in hand, apparently oblivious of all mortal eyes except their own.

"My darling," remarked Denton, "our friends on the piazza seem interested! Keep hold of my hand! Let us go up to them so!"

"Oh, Winfield," whispered Genevieve, "do you suppose we can grow to such a beautiful old age as that together?"

"We'll try!" answered Denton, fervently.

THE COOK

The lumber-barge "Lucy" had been loading all morning at the Delta Company's wharf. The sweet-smelling, smooth pine boards were piled high upon her deck, and in the little wharf office Captain Swanson sat in a swivel chair looking out at the stevedores, who, bending beneath the long loads they carried on their shoulders, moved hither and thither before him, living symbols of labor.

As he gazed out the window a knock fell upon the door, and he shouted a gruff "Come in!"

The man who entered was unkempt, short and red-faced.

"I seen yer advertisement in th' paper," he said, "'bout yer wantin' a cook, an' come down t' see ef ye hed one yit."

"Are you a cook?" the Captain inquired.

"Yew bet I be; I'm 'bout th' cookiest cook thet ever trod a deck. Is th' job open?"

It was; indeed, the loss of his cook had seriously disturbed Captain Swanson. The stranger was engaged.

"Better git right down in the galley and git dinner," the Captain said.

"Whattel I give 'em?" the stranger asked.

"Oh, give 'em rice; that's fillin'."

"All right. How many men be they t' feed?"

The Captain counted on his fingers. "Twenty-five," he replied.

The stranger thereupon disappeared in the hold of the boat. He found a huge bag of rice and an old pair of scales. Filling a wash-boiler with water, he set it on the fire. He weighed out twenty-five pounds of the rice, and dumped it into the boiler. He discovered salt, and added that. And then he sat on a keg and waited "fer her t' bile."

Presently "she" began. Up, up, nearer the top of the boiler rose the rice. The cook seized a dipper and a pan, and dipped out a quantity of the rice. Again it boiled up. He seized another pan. It was now boiling over faster than he could dip. Every dish and pan in the galley was filled. He turned over the keg on which he had sat, and filled that. Still the miraculous boiler continued to boil over. At last, in sheer despair and fright, he rushed up on the deck, crying, "Mate, mate! Fer th' love o' Gawd, don't take on enny more lumber; we gotta cargo o' rice!"

And with that he was over the rail and speeding up the wharf. The next day another advertisement appeared in the "Gazette," asking for a cook on the barge "Lucy."—Kenneth Herford, in the Pilgrim.

Ah, wasteful woman—she who may
On her sweet self set her own price,
Knowing he cannot choose but pay—
How has she cheapened Paradise!
How given for naught her priceless gift!
How spoiled the bread and spill'd the wine,
Which, spent with due respective thrift,
Had made brutes men, and men divine!

—Coventry Patmore.

CRUEL METHODS

Of Treating Piles and Rectal Diseases

The old methods of treating piles by the knife, by ligature or dilatation, besides causing intense pain, and frequently collapse and death, are now known to be worse than useless as far as actually curing the trouble is concerned.

Derangement of the liver and other internal organs, as well as constipation, often causes piles, and it is a mistake to treat it as a purely local disease; this is the reason why salves and ointments have so little effect, and the wide-spread success of the Pyramid Pile Cure has demonstrated it.

The Pyramid Pile Cure is not a salve nor ointment, but is in suppository form, which is applied at night, absorbed into the sensitive rectal membrane, and acts both as a local and constitutional treatment, and in cases of many years' standing has made thousands of permanent cures.

Many pile sufferers who have undergone surgical operations without relief or cure have been surprised by results from a few weeks' treatment with the Pyramid suppository.

The relief from pain is so immediate that patients sometimes imagine that the Pyramid contains opiates or cocaine, but such is not the case. It is guaranteed absolutely free from any injurious drug.

The cure is the result of the healing oils and astringent properties of the remedy, which cause the little tumors and congested blood-vessels to contract, and a natural circulation is established.

All druggists sell the Pyramid Pile Cure at 50 cents for full-sized package.

A little book on cause and cure of piles mailed free by addressing Pyramid Drug Co., Marshall, Michigan.

We Want to Send You a Pair of

Magic Foot Drafts

for Rheumatism,

ON APPROVAL

Send us a dollar if they give you comfort. Otherwise nothing. Take no medicine.

Magic Foot Drafts have drawn out *and absorbed* more poisonous acids where they could be burned or otherwise destroyed than all the medicine made could possibly drive out. The large pores of the feet are natural outlets. The nerves and blood-vessels are most susceptible there. Magic Foot Drafts are the common-sense remedy for rheumatism. Results prove it, for our record of cures is about nine out of ten cases. The chances are nine to one that they will cure you, and we bear all the expense of trying thousands of sufferers every week—a policy which is making an enormous success of our business, because the drafts *do cure*.

Don't suffer when comfort costs so little. Remember, you pay nothing until you are satisfied with the relief given—and you are the judge. Send your name to-day to the Magic Foot Draft Co., 1050 Oliver Building, Jackson, Michigan.

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Reduced Prices. Don't buy until you see new 80-pp. Cat. B. MAILED FREE.
The Rudolph Wurlitzer Co.,
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SILK REMNANTS
2 cents a pack.
Having a large stock we will reduce our price to move them. All new, bright pieces, corners and squares. Good size. Most beautiful designs, 15 choice pieces in each pack, also velvet and satin squares extra, 1 package, 2 cents; 3 packages for 5 cents; 12 packages for 15c; 100 packages for $1.00, postpaid.
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AGENTS WANTED In every County in the State to sell TRANSPARENT-HANDLE POCKET-KNIVES Good commissions paid. From $75 to $300 a month easily made. Write for terms. Novelty Cutlery Co., 66 Bar St., Canton, Ohio.

If afflicted with weak eyes, use **Thompson's Eye Water**

How to Dress

AUTUMN FASHIONS

THE time has come when Nature is putting on the brilliant shades of the dying year—rich yellows, browns, crimson and richer greens than those with which the outgoing season deals. The new weaves of cloth take on this variableness of color, together with a little roughness of surface. A little tinge of color is intermingled in most of the heavier-weight cloths. Velvets for waists are in colors covered with metallic dots or polka-dots of the same color.

SMART AUTUMN COSTUME

An autumn costume of black velvet with metallic dots is held exceedingly smart, and makes very effective gowns in shirt-waist style. The trimming is simply bands of the cloth and tailor-stitching. Finish with a feather boa.

HOME GOWN

Home gowns are delightfully comfortable, and are charming in effect made of challis, albatross or any of the soft, clinging materials. The model of the

AUTUMN COSTUME AFTERNOON GOWN

home gown illustrated suits all fabrics, as well as simple silks or washable materials. It is of blue challis with flecks of black, the trimming being of string-colored lace.

AFTERNOON GOWN

The model of the afternoon gown illustrated commends itself for a serviceable dress for general wear. So many dresses still are shown in the shirt-waist style that the popularity of it is quite lasting. Our model is in green, with figures of darker green, and trimmings of bands edged with the darker color.

WALKING-SUIT

A suit in this style made of Venetian cloth in a medium gray tone in the new slot-seam plaited style is one of the newest things of the season. It is a very effective style, and looks well on all women, as the graceful flow at the bottom of the skirt is held in place by the stitched plaits.

HOME GOWN WALKING-SUIT

The favorite trimming seems to be squares placed diagonally on the goods. The blouse has a ripple about the waist, and a turned-over sailor-collar.

Any of these patterns furnished from this office for ten cents. Waist and skirt can be purchased as separate patterns.

SMART AUTUMN COSTUME.—Waist, No. 4232. Bust measures, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches. Skirt, No. 4223. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches.

HOME GOWN.—Waist, No. 4230. Bust measures, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches.

WALKING-SUIT.—Waist, No. 4210. Bust measures, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches. Skirt, No. 4197. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches.

AFTERNOON GOWN.—Waist, No. 4228. Bust measures, 32, 36 and 40 inches. Skirt, No. 4115. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches.

Close of the Dot Contest

IN ACCORDANCE with previous announcements the contest closed September 1st, and the sealed statement giving the exact number of dots in the design was opened. The correct number is 7450. An examination of the counts sent in by contestants revealed the astonishing fact that 1731 subscribers had reported the correct count, and this number of persons are entitled to an equal share of the first prize of $500.00.

The second prize of $200.00 is divided equally among those who sent in counts of 7449 and 7451. We find 1076 counts of 7449 and 948 counts of 7451.

The third prize of $100.00 is divided equally among the 1675 subscribers who sent their counts as 7448 or 7452.

The fourth prize is divided equally among those who sent in their counts as 7447 or 7453, and those sending the two next nearest numbers are awarded the fifth prize; and so on to the end of the list of prizes.

Owing to the surprisingly large number of our subscribers who sent the correct or nearly correct number of dots, we find it impossible to publish more than the names of those who sent the correct count, as these alone fill the entire opposite page.

While we are surprised and pleased with the display of skill by our subscribers in counting so accurately, we confess that it would be more gratifying to us to award the larger prizes to fewer persons. But we must follow the rules laid down at the beginning of the contest and make an equal division among the large number of winners.

To send so many prizes entails a great deal of labor and considerable time, but all of the winners should receive their awards by the 10th of October.

We thank our many friends for their kindly interest in the contest, and trust that the entertainment and interest awakened thereby will prove of lasting benefit.

Wit and Humor

BARGAIN-DAY

When Mary greets me with a kiss on my return at night,
And when her eyes are dancing in a waltz-step of delight,
I know her loving nature is so pleasantly alive,
Because she plans to ask me for another twenty-five;
She doesn't need to tell me that 'twill be excursion-day,
That she's tired out with labor and just pines to get away;
I can read a woman's features, and I've learned to know the sign,
When dollar articles are marked way down to ninety-nine.

The thrill that passes through me as I stand and take the kiss!
Oh, you single men, believe me, 'tis a sweet and sacred bliss;
The price has made it sacred, and no wonder I hold back,
For a twenty-five is going to the gurgle of a smack.
'Tis in vain I growl at business, and discourse with much dismay
Of losses I have suffered and big bills I've got to pay;
She scorns my pictured ruin, and I have to get in line
When dollar articles are marked way down to ninety-nine.

Oh, merchants of the city, pause a moment in your greed;
That you've got to make a living I most readily concede,
But I ask you frank and honest, can't you find some other way
And not torment us husbands with your blasted bargain-day?
I plead the case before you, for the money's running slow;
And the house is full of notions bought because you marked them low;
I'm helplessly at mercy of this wicked wife of mine,
When dollar articles are marked way down to ninety-nine.

—Louis E. Thayer, in Springfield Republican.

THE OLD MAN AT THE POLLS

AMONG Booker T. Washington's many stories of the contempt of the low-class Southern whites for the negroes is this one:

"One day," says Mr. Washington, "a poor, ignorant white man came to the polls to vote.

"'I wish you'd oblige me by voting this ticket,' said a bright mulatto who was standing near the polls.

"'What kind of a ticket is it?' asked the poor white man.

"'Why,' said the mulatto, 'you can see for yourself.'

"'But I can't read.'

"'What, can't you read the ballot you have there in your hand, and which you are about to vote?' exclaimed the colored man.

"'No,' said he; 'I can't read at all.'

"'Well,' said the colored man, 'this ballot means that you are in favor of giving equal franchise to both white and colored citizens.'

"'It means to let the niggers vote, does it?'

"'Yes, sir.'

"'Then I don't want it. Niggers don't know enough to vote.'"—New York Times.

STRAY REFERENCES FOR A DAILY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER

Abandoned—The character of our driveling contemporary.
Ass—The man who does not read our paper.
Babble—The arguments of our driveling contemporary.
Contemporary—A pirate who runs a rival newspaper.
Printer—The man who manages the managing editor.
Nonsense—The matter the other paper prints.
Evil—Something for the reporters to write about.
Reform—Something to increase circulation.
Poetry—Something that we do not need.
Contributor—Usually a high-school graduate.
Correspondent—One who writes fiction from the seat of war.
Saturday—The day when the bills come in.
Subscription—The largest in the world (when it's our own).
Function—Anything from a shoe-clerk's picnic to the launching of a battleship.
Grand Opera—An annual exhibition of evening clothes.
Politics—A subject that always gets us excited.
Boer—One we advocate to please our Irish subscribers.
Competition—Something to keep the reporters busy.
Editorial—An article written after a thing has happened, to tell how it might have been prevented.
Office-boy—A person who runs the paper when the city editor is not in.
Joke—A class of matter that is hard to write and much more difficult to read.—News Letter.

7450 Dots

NAMES OF FIRST-PRIZE WINNERS IN THE DOT CONTEST

The names of the 1731 persons sending a correct count of the dots are arranged alphabetically, those beginning with A in the first paragraph, B in the second paragraph, and so on through the alphabet.

7450 Dots

E. M. Artman, Cynthia Arnold, Andy Anderson, Mrs. Cleo Anderson, C. R. Arnold, Mrs. W. Ashley, Mrs. W. H. Arthnr, Alta Adamson, Nellie Abhott, Elizaheth Akers, W. H. Alexander, L. C. Ashman, Mrs. L. A. Armentront, Mrs. E. T. Avery, I. Atwood, S. L. Atkinson, Mrs. Essylath Andrews, Mrs. A. O. Armstrong, W. Applegate, S. Achor, Mrs. T. Appfeld, A. A. Anderson, L. E. Arledge, C. F. Ames, Mrs. W. Allison, W. B. Arhaugh, T. E. Andrews, J. J. Anderson, Mrs. Sarah Andrews, Fanny A. Ashman, Mrs. Christine B. Anderson, Mrs. Clara E. Ames, C. T. Allen, H. A. Alm, H. E. Atherton, C. M. Alexander, W. B. Arhaugh, C. W. Armstrong, J. S. Aken, S. L. Atherton, J. Anderson, Lottie V. Allen, Jane Armstrong, Mrs. R. J. Alfrey, E. Y. Adams, H. C. Anderson, A. Anderson, Dora Anderson.

Mrs. J. R. Barnette, Mrs. Laura A. Brunson, Mrs. C. H. Bradford, J. C. F. Bullock, W. A. Brown, C. Boaz, M. D., H. L. Brown, 2 S. W. Bradt, 7 W. E. Blaisdell, C. C. Ball, H. A. Brooks, C. E. Boddy, J. Baehman, O. Beane, J. J. Brnee, Mrs. H. F. Baumgardt, Miss Elmir Barnhill, Mrs. Augusta Bodenstein, Mrs. Essie Blackhnru, F. C. Beem, Mrs. M. M. Bolton, J. W. Beal, A. Beerklund, K. W. Baher, J. W. Baker, G. Beam, Rev. C. R. Birnhach, Annie E. Bryant, J. F. Boyers, Avis Baker, Mrs. J. Beiser, J. W. Breed, W. D. Ball, W. H. Braunen, H. T. Booth, Jessie Brattin, Mrs. C. E. Bayley, J. W. Buoh, W. F. Bolender, E. A. Bates, J. P. Beaver, Mrs. J. C. Bell, Mrs. D. Bradshaw, G. M. Black, J. C. Beal, E. L. Barnett, E. N. Ball, H. A. Black, Mrs. E. L. Brown, Mrs. T. C. Bartlett, A. Benham, H. Boesman, Mrs. B. E. Bisel, J. Bishop, Mrs. G. Blong, Grace E. Bartou, H. Braden, J. W. Baldwin, M. T. Baer, B. Babineaux, Mrs. D. Baker, W. S. Burnham, Mrs. G. E. Brewer, A. F. Blaukenhurg, W. G. Baker, Viola Beuson, A. E. Bouney, W. M. Barhee, H. Blayney, Mrs. A. S. Bucher, J. H. Burton, W. F. Ball, J. T. Burdick, C. A. Bouck, Mrs. E. Baker, W. H. Bnrress, Mrs. L. Barlow, G. Bendixon, Mary Baker, Mary A. J. Ballard, L. L. Borden, J. T. Barrns, E. S. Browu, Mrs. J. O. Bartholomew, C. H. Baneroft, Bertha Barhnr, Lena Bates, Mrs. W. Bond, D. H. Berger, Mrs. Carrie Bailey, T. D. Bennick, Mrs. Lizzie Brown, H. W. Bnrt, W. M. Barksdale, C. E. Boles, Gertrude Brown, F. L. Barker, Carrie T. Benham, D. Blackhall, H. W. Bnrt, Mrs. Alice L. Bntler, E. G. Brooks, O. S. Britt, R. Beebe, C. R. Boyd, J. C. Boyer, O. Bradford, J. Broodhurst, Nettie A. Bane, G. F. Beverly, S. Becks, Rev. A. P. Boude, W. Blair, Mrs. J. W. Baker, Alice A. Bradish, S. E. Barb, Mary E. Bolton, W. H. Browu, Mrs. E. L. Bodmer, Mrs. J. Beloto, F. Bonnett, W. S. Brown & Co., Sadie Bristow, Sadie M. Brown, A. J. Baker, P. M., Royal T. Brodrick, D. E. Baughey, A. B. Brincy, Mrs. Lela Barr, M. Ball, Ruby P. Barr, W. D. Bishop, R. W. Baker, C. W. Bigler, H. W. Biddell, G. M. Bieher, L. M. Barker, A. K. Brown, Lanra I. Bonnett, A. Brencr, Clara B. Beverly, S. Bird, Mrs. W. E. Baker, C. A. Bosworth, E. W. Burn, Mrs. N. Beals, O. E. Bates, India Bushnell, Carlotta Boone, Mrs. F. Becker, M. Bell, A. Bearse, Cora E. Boroughf, C. P. Brown, Mrs. G. W. Booker, Mrs. R. E. Bates, E. Bair, Hattie Blaek, J. F. Bnsh, Minnie M. Bowman, Rosetta Blazer, W. Beverlin, G. D. Bossler, Minnie A. W. Bigler, Lizzie Ballard, A. S. Brown, Lillian M. Beek, C. K. Bradford, M. O. Brown, Dora E. Briggs, R. C. Beall, Mrs. Fannie Barrett, E. S. Bishop, G. M. Batey, G. W. Burley, U. Berney.

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Farm Selections

NEWS-NOTES

THE largest cannery in the United States is the San Jose Fruit Preserving Cannery in Santa Clara County, California. Twelve hundred to fifteen hundred hands are employed. This company has received several gold medals, diplomas, etc., in this and foreign countries.

The trend of the great cattle-growing industry in the Southwest is now toward and into the Dominion of Canada in the northwestern section. It is predicted that not less than one million cattle will be transferred to that section from northwestern Texas and adjacent territory on account of the lapse of leases and diminished pasturage.

Up to the present time our production of both cane and beet sugar amounts to only about one fifth of the amount we consume. Protective legislation is desirable enough until the supply is equal to the current demand. When this point is reached the impending crisis will be at hand, and sugar-makers should be prepared to meet it.

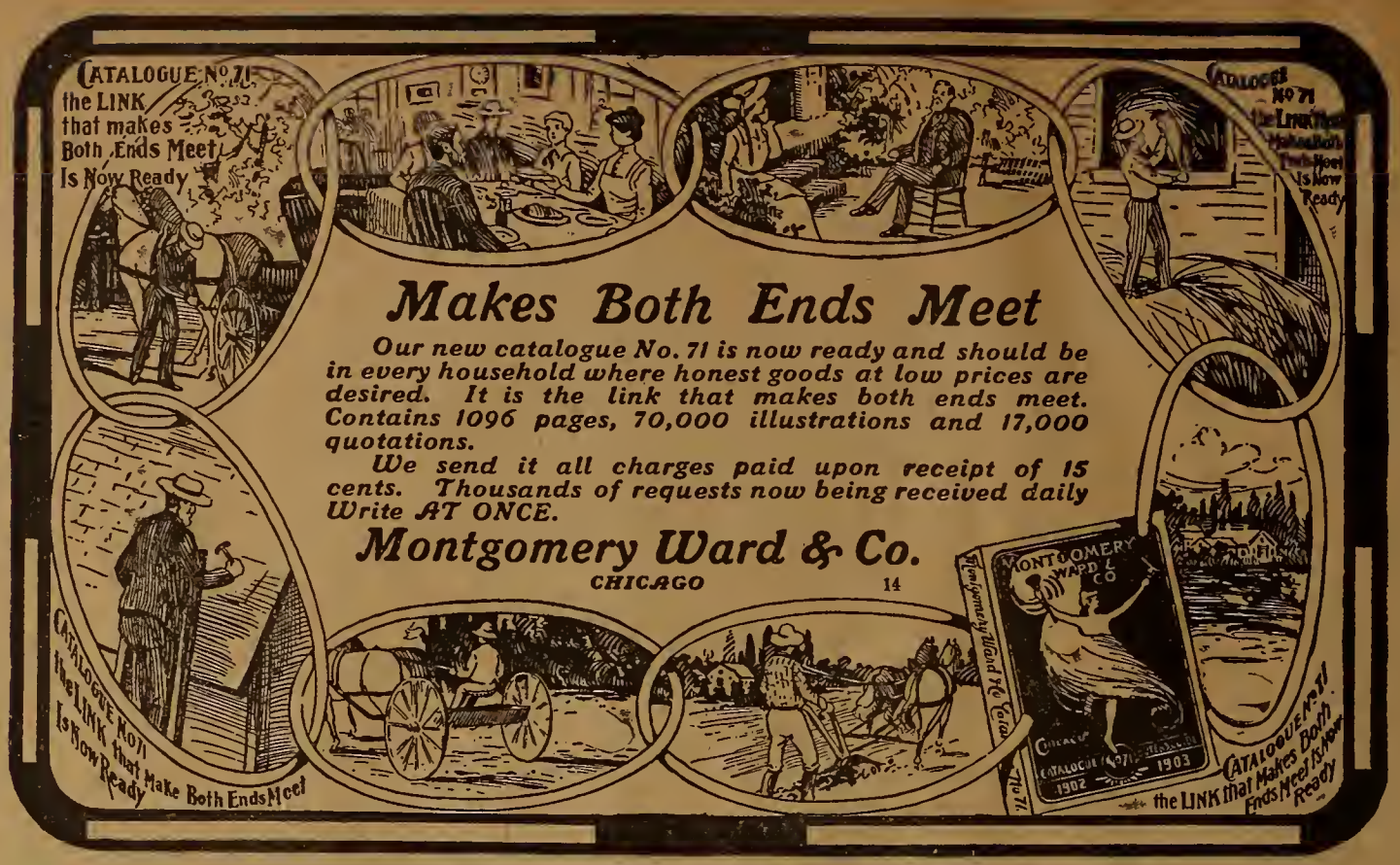
The San Francisco "Trade Journal" says that Turkey has an extensive system of agricultural banks under government management, the purpose of which is to furnish small loans to farmers at a low rate of interest. The capital is provided by a small annual tax on agricultural property. Principal agencies have been established in sixty-five cities, and there are eight hundred and three branches.

Formerly the bulk of the citron used in this country came from Corsica. Doctor Westlake, of Duarte, Cal., now has a grove of forty acres of three-year-old citron-trees. The yield in 1901 was twenty-five thousand pounds of citron, which when cured by Doctor Westlake's recently invented process makes the product equal in every way to the best imported. The citron industry will now be much increased.

The March Bulletin of the American Republics reports the discovery of a new saccharine plant, known to the natives of Paraguay as "sweet herb," "sugar bush" and "honey herb," a few leaves of which are sufficient to sweeten a large cupful of tea or coffee. A German colonist residing at Nueva Germanica, near Assumption, the capital of Paraguay, is endeavoring to cultivate the plant. It is technically known as "Eupatorium Rebaudiarnum." It is a humble-looking herb which seldom exceeds four inches in height.

The need of adapting special crops to special localities, and of determining the fitness of the soil for their successful culture, is becoming daily more and more evident. For instance, the soil and climatic conditions in the vicinity of Dorr, Allegan County, in southwestern Michigan, are such that four hundred acres of land are devoted exclusively to the raising of cucumbers for pickling purposes. Fifty cents a bushel is the prevailing price this season. The storage-rooms are of sufficient capacity to store fifty thousand bushels.

In the report of the United States Consul at Marseilles, France, it is intimated that the fruits grown in the United States do not possess the peculiar qualities of those grown in the vicinity of Apt, in the department of Vancluse, where the manufacture of confectionery in the form of crystallized or candied fruit is made a specialty. It is stated that American fruits, although attractive to the eye and agreeable to the taste in a fresh state, lack the consistency of the French fruits, and thus cannot be subjected to the repeated boiling and scouring essential to the manufacture of a translucent and perfectly finished product. This is stated to be particularly true of cherries. This is apparently a subject that needs investigating, since increased attention is now being given to the production of this line of confectionery in the United States. * * *



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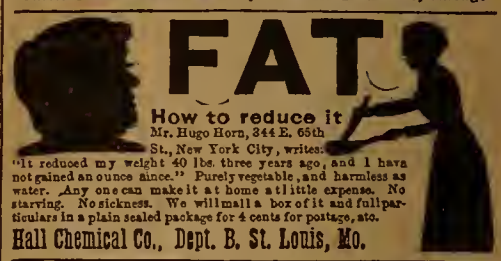

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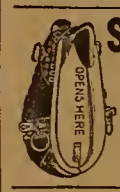

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COMMENT

ALFALFA BACTERIA

Every progressive farmer in the Prairie states who wants to grow alfalfa should get and study the bulletin on alfalfa-growing recently issued by the Illinois Experiment Station (Urbana). This valuable bulletin gives a practical solution of the problem of failures with alfalfa, and with all other leguminous plants as well. In a very interesting summary of it in the "Breeder's Gazette" Mr. J. E. Wing says:

"The right bacteria is to the alfalfa-plant what the bait-can is to the small boy—it helps to catch fish. The fish is the atmospheric nitrogen. Alfalfa-plants are greedy devourers of nitrogen. The protein of which alfalfa is composed is largely made up of nitrogen compounds; without bacteria it is powerless to feed on the free nitrogen, and must fall back on the fixed nitrates or ammonias of the soil. That is why alfalfa revels in barn-yard manures; they feed it, and often, too, they carry to it the bacteria that it needs.

"But alfalfa must have mineral elements, too—potash and phosphoric acid and lime—and it seems from this bulletin that all these are rather deficient in Illinois prairie-soils, the phosphorus seeming to be the most deficient. Lime, no doubt, is mainly useful in sweetening the soil and making it a fit place for the abode of the bacteria; anyway, we know they will not thrive in a sour soil nor in a drowned-out soil, and that brings up another idea: Is it not true that failure with alfalfa often comes from the saturated condition of the soil in winter, when few Illinois tile-drained farms are really dry enough for things to breathe in them? There are regions in the gravel belt where drainage is perfect, almost too perfect, maybe, for drought conditions, and there to establish alfalfa successfully it is only needed to know how to feed it and to introduce the right bacteria into the field.

"Now take up the bulletin and study the tables of results a little. Table 5 shows that without any treatment the first cutting made at the rate of 1,313 pounds to the acre. With bacteria added to the soil the yield was 2,563 pounds—almost double, you see. And that is not all. Had the plots continued without bacteria their condition would have become rapidly worse, rather than better. But let us lime a plot; the result is encouraging—1,438 pounds of hay without bacteria, and 2,875 with it. Lime then pays well on that soil. Now try lime and phosphoric acid; the result is 1,938 pounds, and when bacteria are added to this we get 3,625 pounds—very nearly three times the result of the untreated plot!

"Take up another matter—the amount of nitrogen that the alfalfa-plant can secure from the air. When no bacteria are present the amount is nil. When they are present the amounts fixed in one cutting vary from forty to fifty-four pounds an acre. That means you are gainer through the season of at least one hundred to two hundred pounds an acre of nitrogen. What does that mean, reduced to dollars and cents, to the man who needs more fertility, larger crops on his farm? It means from twenty dollars to forty dollars an acre of fertilizing value given him by the alfalfa meadow! Do not stare incredulously; it is true, gospel truth, scientific truth, practical truth, proved by more than one practical experiment. I have often said that alfalfa was the greatest soil-enricher known, but that unfortunately it would not enrich poor soils because it would not thrive on them. It has enriched Woodland Farm beyond our expectations, and put our bank-account out of 'red ink.'

"But how are you going to get your alfalfa-fields inoculated? The easiest way seems to be to secure a few bushels of soil from an alfalfa-field already charged with the right bacteria, and sow it over the land at the rate of a bushel or two to the acre. The bacteria rapidly spread if soil-conditions are right, and that means dryness, air-penetration, lime enough to correct acidity, and phosphoric acid enough to supply the mineral needs of the plants."

POST-CHECK CURRENCY

A simple postal currency for use in sending small sums of money through the mails is most urgently demanded as a matter of convenience. In spite of the inconvenience and difficulty of remitting small sums through the mails at present, the American people do an enormous amount of mail-order business. It is said that the merchants of Chicago sold last year more than fifty-four million dollars' worth of merchandise through the mails direct to consumers. Consider what a great convenience a post-check currency would be for the mail-order customers of this one city, and then expand it to cover the whole country.

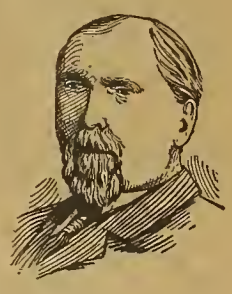
The Buffalo "Courier" says: "Although the Post-Check Currency Bill failed of passage at the last session of Congress, there seems to be no doubt that the measure can succeed in the coming winter if its advocates throughout the country make their desires known to their congressmen. The plan of having the United States money so printed that the bills of small denominations can be converted into checks payable to order at any post-office is no doubt familiar to most of the people by this time, as it has been described with frequency and in detail. The convenience which it would afford, the losses which it would save to the multitude who have occasion to send small amounts of money through the mails, doing away with the trouble of securing money-orders, unquestionably would, in the aggregate, be vast. The scheme is so practicable and so entirely simple that the wonder is that it was not devised and adopted long ago. Congress should at the coming session pass the bill and give the business public the benefit of a really valuable idea."

AFFAIRS OF NOTE AND MEN OF MARK

Professor Rudolph Virchow, one of the world's greatest scientists, died in Berlin, September 5th, near the end of the eighty-first year of his age. Of him Emperor William says: "The great discoverer, physician and teacher whose life-work opened up new channels for medical science is mourned in grateful recognition by his King and by the whole educated world." Professor Virchow was not only the most eminent of pathologists, but of great fame as an anthropologist, archæologist, scientific lecturer, parliamentarian and uncompromising reformer in politics and religion. This full-orbed thinker was equally at home as a leader in the "Kulturkampf" movement, as a debater in the German parliament, as assistant of Schliemann in making excavations at Hissarlik, and as teacher at Berlin.

Horace Grey, retired associate-justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, died at Nahant, Mass., September 15, 1902. Justice Grey was born in Boston, March 24, 1828, was graduated from Harvard in 1845, and from the Harvard Law School in 1849. From 1854 to 1861 he was reporter of the Massachusetts Supreme Court, and "Grey's reports" fill sixteen volumes. In 1864 he was appointed associate-justice, and in 1873 chief justice of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, from which he was called to the federal bench in 1881 by President Arthur. As a jurist he was eminent, both in state and nation, as a writer of decisions clear, broad and sound.

One of the hardest workers and ablest leaders among men engaged in the business of farming is Mr. F. D. Coburn, secretary of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. His fame and the benefits of his work are not confined to his state, but are national. He was born in Wisconsin fifty-six years ago. Thirty-five years ago he began work in Kansas as a farm-hand, and since that time he has been closely identified with the state's agriculture as farmer, agricultural editor and author, secretary of the state board of agriculture and president of the board of regents of the state agricultural college. Mr. Coburn's national fame is largely due to his standard work on swine husbandry, written a quarter of a century ago, and to his "Red Line" series of admirable quarterly reports, each of which is a practical handbook on some important branch of agriculture.



David Bremner Henderson, who recently did the very unusual thing of declining a renomination to Congress, that was equivalent to election, was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, in 1840, came to this country in 1846, and since 1849 has lived in Dubuque, Iowa. He has continuously served the third Iowa district in Congress for twenty years, and has occupied the speaker's chair since the resignation of the Hon. Thomas B. Reed, three years ago.

Speaker Henderson served in the Civil War with three different regiments of Iowa infantry. Having lost a leg at the battle of Corinth, he was discharged, as colonel, in February, 1863, but reënlisted the following June, and served until the close of the war.

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in preparing their grain for live stock. They are made in variety embracing Power Mills, Sweep Mills and Mill and Power Combined. They crush and grind ear corn and all other grains rapidly and perfectly. Better not buy a grinder of any kind until you get a copy of our New Catalog 50. Mailed free.

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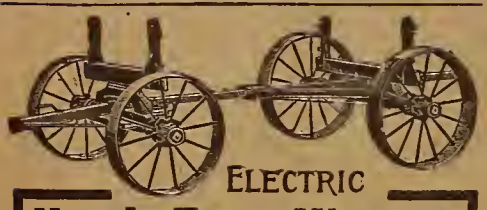

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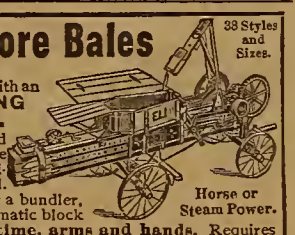

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KITSELMAN BROTHERS, D 24 Muncie, Ind.

Mr. Greiner Says:

WHY BE UNHAPPY?—A real great sorrow seldom, if ever, makes people unhappy. It softens their hearts and makes them all the more receptive for emotions which contribute to true happiness. It's the pin-pricks of life, mere trifles, which make most people miserable, and cause them to waste life for nothing. Ella Wheeler Wilcox gives some sensible advice in this respect, too. She says, "If you are unhappy over petty worries and trials you are wearing yourself to no avail; and if you are allowing small things to irritate and harass you, and spoil the beautiful days for you, take yourself in hand and change your ways. You can do it if you choose. It is pitiful what sort of troubles most unhappy people are afflicted with. I have seen a beautiful young woman grow care-lined and faded just from imagining she was being 'slighted' or neglected by her acquaintances. Some one nodded coldly to her, another one spoke superciliously, a third failed to invite her, a fourth did not pay her a call, and so on—always a grievance to relate, until one is prepared to look sympathetic at the sight of her. And such petty, petty grievances for this great, good life to be marred by! And all the result of her own disposition! Had she chosen to look for appreciation and attention and good-will she would have found it everywhere." It seems to be human nature to worry over trifles. I have been troubled more over the loss of a favorite pencil or pocket-knife than over the loss of a considerable sum of money through the failure of some financial institution. We know it is foolish to allow ourselves to worry over such petty matters, but it is hard to overcome the tendency. And then our temper rising and getting past our control on the slightest provocation! Irritability surely is a habit—a very bad one, too—and should be fought with might and main if we value our peace of mind and happiness. As Ella says, "Keep your voice from rising, and speak slowly and calmly when you feel yourself giving way to it. Realize how ridiculous and disagreeable you will be if you continue—what an unlovely and hideous old age you are preparing for yourself. . . . If you stuff yourself like an anaconda, dwell on the small worries and grow angry at the least trifle, you are committing as great and inexcusable a folly as if you flung your furniture and garments and food and fuel into the sea in a spirit of wanton cruelty. . . . Every sick, gloomy day you pass is a sin against life. Get health, be cheerful, keep calm." And I will add, "Smile at the world, and the world will be very apt to smile back at you!"

THE HONEST FARMER.—Recently I bought a basket of peaches from a market-wagon from near Lake Ontario passing through here on the way to Buffalo. I was asked the ruling price for first-class stock, and assured that the peaches on the bottom were as good as the very fine ones on top. But I found afterward that they were not, although the case was not so glaringly bad as was the rule some years ago. It is a pity, indeed, that the strong denunciation of the "honest farmer's" methods found in one of the Buffalo papers a few days ago, and coming from the pen of a noted writer, can only be met by the lame excuse of a "slight exaggeration." I make the following extracts: "Last Sunday I was at a town in Niagara County, where a lavish peach crop is just being harvested. At a house where I stopped all hands were busily engaged in the work. The thrifty agriculturist and his help were out in the orchard picking peaches, while his wife with others were sorting them and filling the baskets, carefully placing the small ones in the bottom and the large ones on top. Talk about your city corner grocer! He isn't in it with a good, plain old farmer when it comes to tricks of the trade." The writer then explained that these peaches were to be carted by wagon to Buffalo, a distance of about forty miles, and that the grower would consider himself lucky if he received sixty to seventy-five cents a basket for the fruit. "There were on hand when I was present," he says, "about one hundred and fifty baskets of the fruit, all sorted and ready for shipment, while bushels and bushels were waiting to be picked. A couple of young women, evidently neighbors, called while I was there, and inquired of the housewife how much she would charge for a couple of baskets of the fruit. 'A dollar a basket,' she proclaimed, briskly, without a moment's hesitation." The concluding advice is as follows: "The farmer is a jolly good fellow, but when you are selling him gold bricks take care that he doesn't pay you with wooden pumpkins." There are hogs in all trades. Actually dishonest packing, however, is not any more the rule, as it once was. Fruit-growers have found that it does not pay in the end, and our leading men are very careful to pack an even grade of peaches, pears, apples, or whatever fruit they may have, through the entire basket or barrel. The poor and dishonest packing is done mostly by novices in the business or by people who happen to have a chance crop, and are not regularly in the business, often by one-year renters. But even they should, and will, find that you may sell a few baskets of such dishonestly packed fruit at good prices a few times, but that you can't continue in the business without loss. Honesty pays, and the owner of a good orchard cannot afford to do otherwise but pack honestly. The rule among all tradespeople is to ask higher prices in retail than at wholesale; but I find I can drive down to the lake region, into the peach orchards, and buy a supply of first-class peaches much cheaper than I find them in Buffalo. The hogs of the "genus homo" who ask one dollar a basket for the same peaches right in the orchard for which they expect only sixty or seventy-five cents in Buffalo, after driving thirty miles, are an exception rather than the general rule. The average fruit-grower is all right. The writer of the Buffalo daily was unlucky in selecting the house and people.

Mr. Grundy Says:

THE GREAT CORN CROP is about ready to husk, and I think it will receive better care than any we have had in many years. The failure of last season taught people a lesson they will not soon forget. Almost every crib in the country is empty, and farmers have learned that corn has a feeding value of which they were unaware, and the cribs will not again be emptied until another crop is assured. I see many cribs that are badly racked and will need much repairing before corn is put into them. It won't pay to risk good corn in poor, tumble-down, leaky cribs. After a crib is straightened up and made solid a good, rain-proof roof should be put on. First-class roofing-boards are expensive now, and I would not use them. I would buy one of the cheaper grades, and cover them with good roofing-paper, putting it on well and painting it with the asphaltum paint used for that purpose. Such a roof will last longer than one made of the best grade of boards, and will be absolutely rain-proof. If such a roof as I have described is put on, the fall need not exceed one foot in eight. I would prefer a fall of about eighteen inches, so the water from melting snow would run off quicker, but I have seen such roofing on many buildings on which the fall did not exceed one foot in eight, and they were good. If painted once in five or six years they will last a long time. The asphaltum paint does not cost much. I bought a lot last week for twenty cents a gallon. I find it pays to use it liberally, and often enough to keep the paper well coated. Sanding the paint well while fresh makes a harder, more lasting jacket.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.—A great many farmers are expecting to plant fruit, shade and ornamental trees next spring, and quite a number of them have been making inquiries about varieties, and getting all the information they possibly can, while others merely have a vague idea of what they want, and will make up their orders almost entirely from the catalogues. Most of them will put off the matter until about a week before they want the trees, then make up their orders with a rush, and thus make a dozen mistakes, and expect the trees to be forwarded at once. They are almost certain to be disappointed. Orders go in by the thousands at planting-time, and very often nurserymen are sold out of many of the varieties ordered, and are compelled to substitute others or only partly fill the order. The worst time in the whole year to order trees is at planting-time in the spring.

I have planted thousands of trees for myself and others, and for many years have not failed to order my trees in the fall. In no case have I been disappointed or failed to get what I ordered. If the nurserymen did not happen to have something ordered, he had plenty of time to get it elsewhere before filling the order. The trees are forwarded to me before the ground freezes, and are carefully heeled in for the winter. Before heeling in I cut off or shorten all branches needing it, shaping them up all ready for planting, then shorten all the roots that are too long. Rarely do I leave a root over six inches long. Some writers make a great fuss about planting trees in post-holes, but I have found that trees one to three years old that are properly cut back and shaped at the top start off better and grow better if the roots are cut back from four to six inches than if left as they come from the nursery. In trimming out the top one must have an idea of what he wants. If it is a low-headed tree he must shorten in the top closely. If he wants a high head he must trim to almost a straight stick. If there is a fork or a branch nearly the same size as the leader it should be cut off close.

In heeling in I dig a trench, about eighteen inches deep, straight down on one side and the other sloping away, so that when the roots are placed against the steep side the trees will lie on the ground. The trees are then placed in the trench as closely together as possible, with a stake between each variety, and a record is made in a book of just where each variety is placed. If the labels are lost or the writing is washed away before spring I still know just where each variety is. After the trees are packed in the trench the earth is piled on. The roots are covered at least a foot deep, and the stems up to the tips three to four inches deep. The earth is heaped up over them so that no water will stand there, and I see that the surface-drainage about the spot is good. I have heeled in hundreds of trees and shrubs in the above manner, and have never lost one.

In handling evergreens eighteen inches and less in height I merely trim the roots a little, cutting off the bruised ends, then stand the trees straight up in a trench, crowding them together as closely as possible, and bank the earth up among their lower branches. I prefer to have larger evergreens shipped early in the spring, my order being placed in the fall. I have planted a great many evergreens, cedar, spruce, pines and arbor-vitæ, and have always had the best success with trees twelve to twenty-four inches in height. If I were going to order a lot for my own use now I would call for arbor-vitæ, pines, spruces and cedars twenty to thirty inches in height; for hedges and wind-breaks, twenty inches, and for single specimens on the lawn, thirty inches. I have planted spruces and cedars five and six feet in height, but they must have the best of care the following season or most of the lower leaves will fall off. The average planter will have far the best success by planting the smaller sizes, and he will have the training of the tree from the ground up. I would advise every one wanting evergreens to buy direct from the nursery. Don't give an agent your order. If you do you will pay three prices for the trees, and more than likely get culls or badly handled trees that never will amount to anything. If the spring happens to be warm and dry, like last spring was, it will pay to wet freshly planted evergreens every evening. I spray them with well-water every evening until a heavy rain falls.

All Over the Farm

LANDOWNERS AND RENTERS

LANDLORDISM.—There is a strong drift toward landlordism. Statistics do not indicate the importance of this tendency, as the number of the land-owning farmers continues to increase through the making of farms in new territory and the subdivision of farms by heirs in older sections, but the acreage of land that is being farmed by tenants is increasing rapidly. Land is looked upon as a safe investment, its ownership is thought by town and city residents to confer a sort of dignity upon them, and heirs leaving the country for the town are slow to part with inherited estates—all conspire to promote a growth of landlordism. It is easy to condemn the ownership of farms by non-residents, but such ownership seems well within the rights of any one, and the criticism should be aimed rather at the irrational scheme of renting so often adopted.

It is morally wrong to exhaust the productive power of land, and any system of management is wrong that tends in that direction. When a landlord knows no better than to care only for immediate annual income, or to rent his land on such terms that immediate annual income must be the aim of the one doing the farming, the ownership of the land by such a man is a curse to the community and to the whole country. If there were no other terms of renting, landlordism should be made unlawful. A great amount of renting is done on such terms, and the result deserves more public condemnation than it is getting. When a system does not regard first the preservation of fertility it is wholly bad, and brings only a train of troubles.

THE RENTER'S SIDE.—In many communities the common criticism of renters' methods is very unfair and unjust. It is the system of renting employed by the landowners that is at fault. When a man has no assurance that he can hold a farm more than one, two or three years, and when there is little, if anything, more than a living for him from hard cropping of the fields, he would indeed be a poor business fellow if he did not go after immediate returns rather than seek to build up fertility for years when the farm would likely be in another's hands. If he rents for cash he must have the money for payment; if he gives part of crop, and especially in case the landowner knows little about the needs of the soil, the harder he runs the land for the immediate year, the surer will he be to satisfy the owner with the rental turned over.

DIVERSE INTERESTS.—When renting is done on shares there is one difference in interests that must continue to exist. The man who is getting only a part of a crop cannot afford to do some things in its production that an owner farming his own land might do with profit, because the owner would get all the benefit of the extra attention given. That benefit might be in increased yield of the one crop or improved chance for the succeeding crop, but when it comes at the expense of one who must divide it he would not be justified in incurring it. This difference in interests, inherent in the nature of things, is responsible for much criticism that is unfair to the renter.

TERMS OF RENTING.—Land should be under the management of one who is directly interested in the continuance of its fertility; and that is secured under the renting system only by giving to the renter assurance that he will continue to farm it upon terms fair to himself. This is the English plan, and the soil is cared for. There should be such terms of agreement that a renter cannot reduce fertility, if he is so short-sighted as to desire it, and that he is justified in using the means of improvement that an owner would use. When these conditions are complied with the greatest curse of landlordism is removed. But the ownership of land by those who are ignorant of the fact that it needs expenditure of labor and money to insure increased productiveness in the future, and who regard only the prospect of large cash returns from the management of any chance renter, is an unfortunate thing. Much land is now in such hands, and it bears the marks of such ownership. Land is a safe investment for a non-resident only when the terms made to the renter are such that he may, and must, maintain fertility as well as would a good farmer who tills his own land. In such a case the share given the owner will not be as large as that offered by transient renters, but the receipts in the long run will be larger. Farming my own land, I have no partizan leanings in this matter; but somewhat wide opportunities for close observation convince me that much land is going into the hands of men too ignorant of agriculture to be intelligent landlords, and that much land is being skinned by renters because the inducement is wholly on that side. Older landlords are less inclined to such mistake.

A NEW CLASS OF LANDOWNERS.—A considerable area of farming-land in recent years has passed into the hands of city men, who employ trained farm managers and run their large farms squarely for profit. I incline to think that such ownership is a blessing to any community, as the farm becomes an object-lesson from which much may be learned. We may see many things to accept, and some things to reject. The city owner has the cash capital to permit his scientific manager to do all his work in the best possible way, and some of these farms are to-day furnishing the highest-grade products that go upon the city market. I could name many sections in which a farm so managed by an expert scientist has helped to revolutionize the methods of farmers of the region, this being especially true in respect to dairying. It was formerly my belief that no large tract of Eastern land could be farmed profitably while owned by a city man; but the employment of the expert manager has shown that the fact is otherwise. He uses business methods in farming, knows what the land is fitted to produce, and how to produce it, and has everything done as nearly right as he would if he were the head of a manufacturing-plant. Skill, true economy, good cash resources, expert marketing—every factor is present to achieve success; and more land year by year will come under such management. We have no reason to object to such non-resident ownership; the soil is given good care, and money is made in farming, all inciting us to more progressiveness and adding to our faith in our chosen life-work. DAVID.

OUR GREATEST CROP

SOME FACTS AND FIGURES OF OUR INDIAN CORN

Some one with a head for figures estimates that our growing corn crop in the United States will amount to twenty-five hundred million bushels, something like three hundred million bushels more than we have ever raised before. This much corn at even a low price represents a vast amount of money, and, too, a vast investment of capital and labor; but that it represents such a large percentage of profit on the labor and capital invested is not so certain. At thirty cents a bushel to the farmer this estimated yield would amount to seven hundred and fifty million dollars. Census figures show that the average yield an acre is not over twenty-five bushels, and if the price shall be forty cents a bushel instead of thirty, the income an acre would be ten dollars, to which may be added two dollars and fifty cents for the stover, making the average gross acreage yield twelve dollars and fifty cents. Counting the interest on land investment and taxes, the usual wear of machinery, cost of primary preparation of land—plowing and harrowing before planting—cost of seed and any commercial fertilizers used for the crop, drilling the seed, at least two cultivations, cutting, husking, cribbing, shelling, and hauling to market, even the lay reader can see that the net profit to our corn-growers does not suggest that they are rapidly laying up treasures on earth.

It is true that much of this immense corn crop will never be husked, cribbed, shelled or hauled to market, for millions upon millions of bushels of it will be fed in the husk to steers, and be transformed into high-priced beef and pork that all the scolding in which the meat-buyers may indulge at the expense of the much-sinning packers will not bring down to low-priced beef and pork until the breeders can accumulate a surplus of animals.

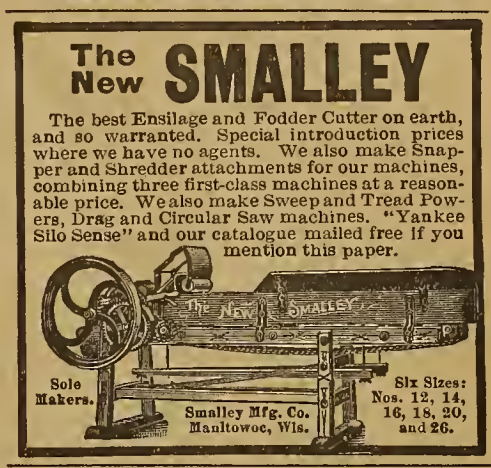
It is presumed that most of the corn that shall go into beef and pork will bring the feeders more than market price; but that profit will belong to the feeding operation, for it is a supreme law of husbandry that a farmer's crop is only worth what he can buy his neighbor's for.

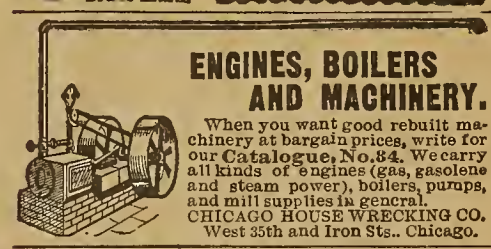
I have said that the average yield an acre for the whole country is not over twenty-five bushels. The reader may get an idea of how small and unprofitable the yield of thousands of acres must be when he reflects that there are hundreds of thousands of acres that yield from fifty to one hundred bushels to the acre, and that this year, in southeastern Pennsylvania, there are few farms that will not show a yield of sixty bushels an acre. On such farms, of course, the crop is very profitable, and teaches the great lesson in agriculture that the time is past when ignorance and carelessness can sow the seed and successfully depend upon the good Lord or a good season for an abundant harvest.

Corn growing on land fertilized with barn-yard manure three parts, hen-manure one part, and applied just before the land was plowed. Fred Grundy.

In some of the Western states within the last few years there have been corn-breeders' associations organized, having for their object the improvement of the plant by development, crossing, and selection of the seed, so that the short or ill-shaped ear, the shallow-grained one or the ear not properly filled and rounded to the tip, is not allowed to propagate after its kind. There are hundreds of corn-fields in which barren stalks—that is, stalks bearing no ears—are present in numbers as high as twenty per cent. These stalks bear pollen, and of course fertilize neighboring stalks and spread unfruitfulness more rapidly than improvement grew. By care and selection of seed these loafers can be cast out, and each stalk made to bring forth its golden harvest.

W. F. McSPARRAN.





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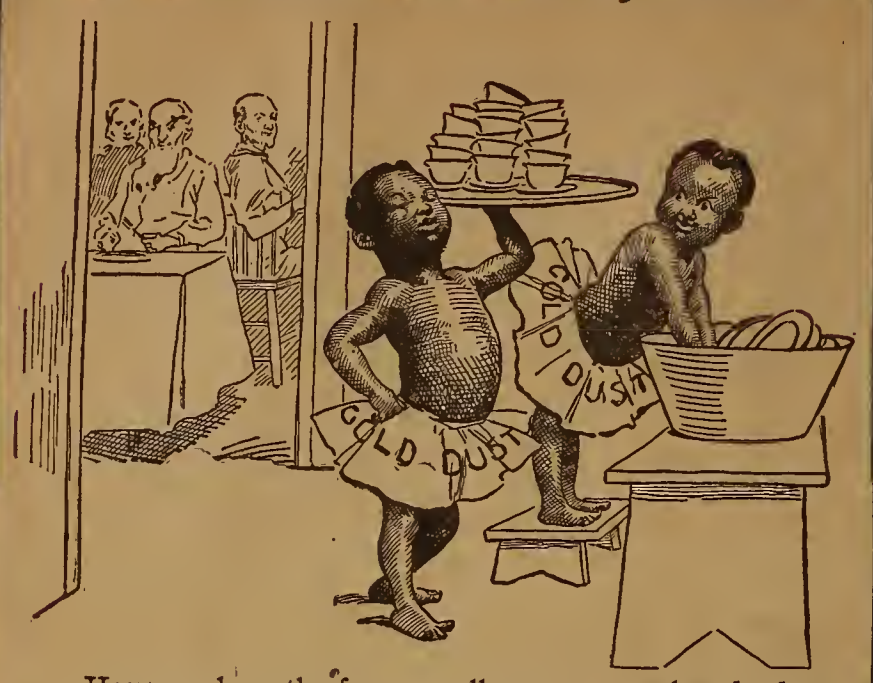

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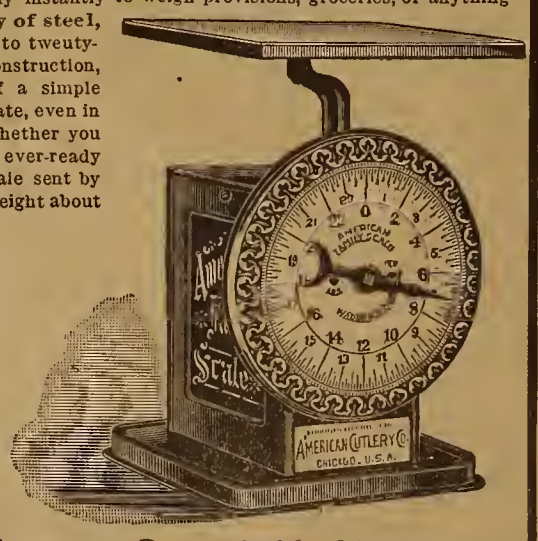

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In the Field

BEETS FOR STOCK

THE beet-growers in Germany are urged to continue growing beets for use as feed for stock. The determination of farmers to grow a less acreage of beets because of the overproduction of sugar is the reason for this advice. It has been demonstrated by a series of experiments conducted in Germany during the past year that little, if any, loss will result if a large proportion of the crop is fed to stock.

* * *

STORING CORN FODDER

Not all of us are satisfied that a silo is just the success it looks to be, and we do not quite know what to do with our corn fodder after husking. The result is that much valuable food is lost to the stock. If the stalks are laid down in the bay they will mold, and thus be wasted; there is not room to stack them on the scaffolds, but here is a plan which will work better than scaffolds or mows: Adjoining the stable put up a low shed, without a floor if the earth is dry enough to keep the bottom of the stalks out of the wet. In this shed stand the shocks of corn after they have been husked. As they are needed for feeding from time to time they may be brought into the stable, and cut in heaps large enough to heat if allowed to lie a day or two before being used. Where too many cattle are kept, three large boxes may be used for the cut stalks. These may be emptied one after another in rotation, as the stalks become softened. A pailful or two of water sprinkled over the contents of the boxes when they are filled will hasten the process of warming. A potato-crateful of this cut feed, with a ration of corn-meal, will furnish a good feeding for a cow at night and morning. At noon each cow should have a good ration of hay. Corn alone is not a perfect food. This method nicely takes the place of the silo. E. L. VINCENT.

SAVE THE STRAW

In many parts of the country the hay crop was very short, even in some places being almost an entire failure. The corn crop, of course, will be immense, and for home uses the corn stover will largely relieve the hay shortage. If, however, no roughage but corn stover is fed, the animals get pretty tired of it, and will not consume as much of it as if they could have a change. Now, if the wheat and oats straw be saved bright and dry, large quantities of it will be eaten by the cows and young cattle if fed to them once a day with the stover. Even if there should be a good supply of hay about the place, if it can be sold, and straw made to substitute for part of it, there will often be more profit in selling it than in feeding it.

There are always enough nutrients in bright, clean straw to pay the animal for eating it; and in the absence of sufficient more nutritious fodders, it serves the good mechanical office in the digestive operation of distending the stomach, or rather of filling it. For this a quantity of bulky feed is essential in the ration for its most economical animal assimilation; and where large quantities of concentrated feeds are given, straw will often take the place of more expensive material.

Even on our Eastern farms, where straw is usually valued highly, many farmers maintaining that they can only afford to grow wheat at present prices in consideration of having the straw for bedding, we waste large quantities by using an unnecessary amount for bedding, when part of it should be used in the mangers.

If straw for bedding is cut into about one-inch lengths, it will be found that about one third as much as is used for each cow when uncut will keep the cow clean and be many times more valuable as an absorbent.

When we shall have so far advanced in our methods of economically caring for, and properly using, everything of value that our farms and our labor produce, then we will feed much more straw than now. W. F. MCSPARRAN.

ECHOES FROM THE INLAND EMPIRE

In the August 1st issue of FARM AND FIRESIDE I notice an article under the heading "Wheat-fields of the Northwest." Where the writer may live I know not, nor does it matter. The article may be of great interest to people of the Eastern states, who can hardly imagine the vastness of wheat-raising in the Great Northwest, and especially The Inland Empire. About four years ago I turned my eyes toward the setting sun, and landed in The Inland Empire. I wish to congratulate Mr. Shomaker upon his able description of the country as I found it then; but while I am not writing this article for the purpose of criticizing, yet I wish to say that conditions at present in The Inland Empire are very different in some respects from the view a person must take of it from the article appearing in this paper.

He spoke of the massive combined harvesters drawn by sixteen horses, and harvesting twenty acres of wheat daily—a great piece of machinery—but more often these machines are drawn by thirty horses or a traction-engine, cutting and sacking from thirty to fifty acres daily.

The desolation of these great wheat-fields during all the year, excepting the seasons of plowing and harvesting spoken of by Mr. Shomaker, is now almost a thing of the past, and in many instances what was one vast wheat-field owned and operated by some wheat king is now, since the flood of immigration of the past three years, transformed into several smaller farms, many with good houses, and nearly all with fine groves planted and doing well, so that within a very few years what was a great expanse of desolation will be dotted here and there with beautiful groves and fine homes. Again, the water question spoken of has been solved, and the well-drill has revealed that anywhere in The Inland Empire water of the purest quality may be secured, so that instead of having to haul the water for miles, as was the custom, the windmill or gasolene-engine now pumps it; and in most cases large cisterns are dug on elevated ground, so that the water may be piped to the house and barns. Many times will a person find as complete a system of water-works on these farms as in a city. I have seen in the years I have lived here what four years ago were the great prairies of The Inland Empire, then considered valueless except for grazing purposes, and over which were then chased the great bands of range-horses which covered them, converted into fine wheat-ranches.

I have seen land sell one year for seventy-five cents an acre, and the lucky purchaser harvest a crop of seventeen dollars and fifty cents an acre from it the following year. I have seen men come here poor, and in three years' time own a fine home free from incumbrance.

Instead of the farmers going without milk and butter, as they did in former years, they are now beginning to pay some attention to dairying, and not only keep cows to furnish milk for their own use, but supply the local markets as well. In fact, a great amount of butter is being shipped from The Inland Empire to the logging and mining camps in the mountains, always bringing a good price.

Chickens were very scarce when I came here, but now the poultry industry is receiving marked attention, and the farmer's wife prides herself in the fact that she can balance the grocery-bill with her hen product, for which she receives from fifteen cents a dozen in summer to thirty-five cents a dozen in winter for eggs, and from twenty-five to fifty cents for young fries. The cunning coyote fears the Western woman with her Winchester as the Eastern swine-dealer does cholera or the Kansas farmer does hot winds. DAY IMUS.

Gardening

By T. GREINER

PARSLEY FOR HORNET-STING.—Parsley is one of the vegetables I keep green and growing the year round. I sow seed in open ground in early spring, so as to have fresh plants during the summer; then I sow another lot of seed in June or July, to have young plants to transfer to the greenhouse late in the fall (or into a frame or box, the latter to be kept in a cellar window after cold weather comes). The fresh green leaves are used for garnishing, flavoring soups, fish, etc. A new use for parsley-leaves is suggested in the "Gartenlaube," an illustrated German magazine, which says that "quick relief from the pain and swelling of a hornet-sting can be secured by rubbing the stung part briskly with fresh parsley-leaves." The readers can easily try this.

BUYING PLANTS.—Occasionally some reader of the FARM AND FIRESIDE sends me a small amount of money, with request to forward a few plants, seeds, etc., of which I have spoken in these columns. I sometimes comply with such request when I can, but I am not prepared for doing up and shipping plants, and am not in the business. There are many nurserymen and seedsmen in the country ready and willing to execute such orders. Please patronize them. Write all orders legibly in ink. I have a letter, asking for strawberry-plants, written in pencil, and in such a way that the names can hardly be made out; besides, the state has been left out. When you send orders or requests, don't wonder that you are not well or promptly served if you do not write legibly and give your complete address.

BEAN VARIETIES.—The bean varieties are without number, and may be multiplied "ad infinitum." Whenever we plant two or more varieties together we are liable to get mixtures and crosses. I once had a whole lot of pole and bush beans—all sorts without name, and showing various characteristics—sent me for trial by Mr. E. P. Powell. They were an interesting lot, but only a bean specialist could be expected to plant them year after year. With all these many different varieties it is next to impossible to keep track of all of them, or to tell people who have some good bean, and don't know where they got it, what its name is. That may do for a comparatively few standard sorts, such as Navy, Kidney, etc., but not for the whole list. Readers must not expect me to name beans for them, for it is really a wise man who "knows beans."

CELERY-BLIGHTS.—Celery foliage is not easily affected by applications of weak solutions of copper sulphate, and for that reason can easily be kept clean from the various blights and rusts liable to attack it. I find that it is not so very difficult to cure plants if not too seriously diseased. The outer leaves are the first to be affected. The new foliage growing from the center of the plants comes out fresh and clean, and by spraying it often and thoroughly with a liquid made by dissolving one ounce of copper sulphate in two gallons of water I can manage to grow healthy celery even after the blight has begun its work. I have used up to two ounces of the copper sulphate to two gallons of water, but find that this is about the limit of strength, and probably stronger than is needed. I have now nearly lost all my fear of celery diseases, and believe I can easily control them. But what a difference there is between the various varieties, and even between individual plants of the same variety, in regard to their susceptibility to disease attacks! Golden Self-Blanching is more easily affected than White Plume or the red sorts, especially later varieties. Sometimes I find a healthy plant standing in the midst of badly diseased ones. It may be possible to breed blight-proof sorts.

Fruit-Growing

By S. B. GREEN

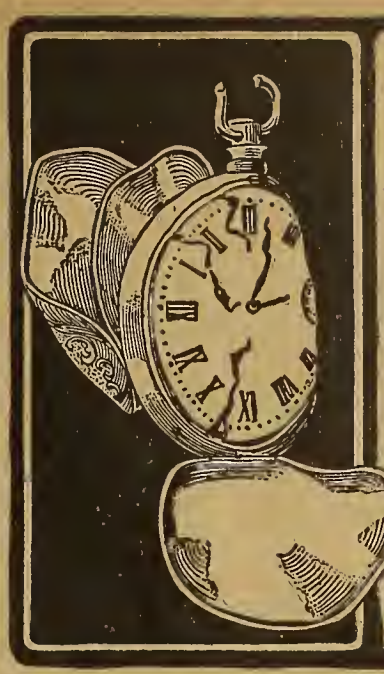
CHERRY-TREES DYING.—J. S., Panola, Ill. From your description I cannot determine the reason why the leaves of your cherry-trees turn yellow and drop off. Such trouble often occurs in trees planted on wet soil. If the roots are very wet they cannot act well, and this injures the whole tree. Cherries need a loose, porous soil in order to do their best. I am inclined to think that it is some such cause as this, or else that it is the result of the trees being infested by borers. If this is not a satisfactory answer, please let me know in regard to it.

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER FOR ORCHARD.—W. L. W., Memphis, Tenn. Commercial fertilizer alone will not take the place of barn-yard manure for any of our garden or fruit crops. If, however, it would be more convenient and cheaper for you to use some commercial fertilizer for your poor land, I would suggest that you use three hundred pounds of bone-dust and one hundred pounds of kainite, but supplement it by plowing in crops of cow-peas occasionally, and possibly every year. I am inclined to think that on good fruit-land in your section that cow-peas alone should prove a sufficient fertilizer for orchards.

KEEPING GRAPES.—A. T., Hart, Mich. The keeping of grapes is a matter that requires considerable care. The ordinary way of keeping grapes until Christmas-time is to pack them in baskets, and then place them in cold storage. This seems to be the most practical way of caring for them on a large scale. In a small way they can perhaps be kept longer by storing them in flaxseed. This is the customary way in some parts of Europe. As you probably know, there is a great difference in the keeping qualities of grapes. Some of our early kinds are of a very perishable nature. Some of the best keepers are those that have something of the European blood in them, as the Agawam, Lindley, Delaware and Catawba.

FERTILIZING STRAWBERRIES.—J. H. B., Orcas, Wash. The best plan of fertilizing strawberries is to apply plenty of manure to the land before the plants are set. This should consist of partially rotted barn-yard manure. In some cases it is desirable to fertilize strawberry-beds in the spring. In this case I think it a good plan to apply some quick-acting commercial fertilizer, such as nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia, and apply it at about one hundred and fifty pounds to the acre. If fertilizers are not available or are too expensive, I would suggest that you use hen-manure. This must be applied with caution, so that it will not come in contact with the plants, and it should be used at the rate of not over one hundred bushels to the acre. I have had most excellent results from this manure.

APPLE-LEAF RUST.—E. A. S., Ames, Iowa. The apple-leaves you send that are brown and dry have been destroyed by the fungus disease known as leaf-rust. This disease frequently affects some of the crabs and tender-foliage apples of the larger kinds, but I have never before known of it being especially injurious to the "Wealthy." I am inclined to think that in this case the trees were growing in some very secluded location, where they were protected from a good circulation of air. This disease is most abundant in moist seasons, and especially in moist, warm weather. A good circulation of air is a preventive, but some varieties may be affected even in the best locations. Varieties liable to this disease should not be planted. The foliage may be kept clean by spraying with Bordeaux mixture.



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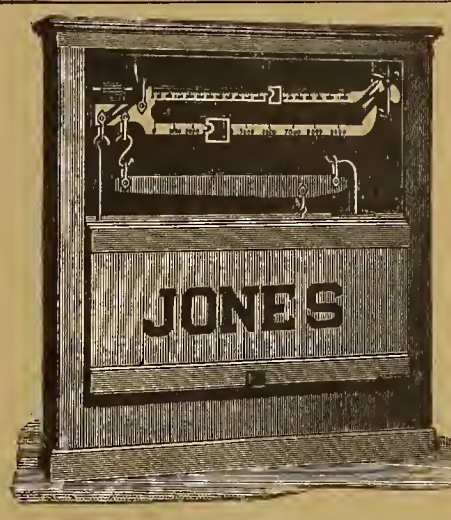

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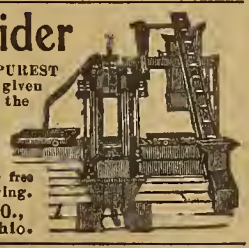

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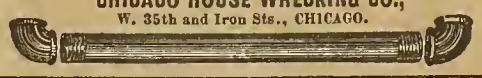

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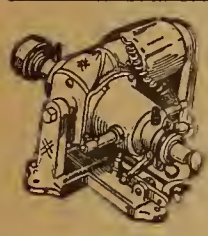
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Live Stock and Dairy

REACHING UP

A FARMER I know had been sending his milk to the village creamery, accepting as best he might the returns given him by the proprietor of the factory. One day it occurred to him that it would add to his peace of mind, to say nothing more, if he should become his own butter-maker. He drew out of the creamery, and after the first churning put up a few pounds of butter in the nicest form he could. He bought a beautiful stamp, and printed every package so neatly that it looked every bit "good enough to eat." Then he started out to work up a trade. At first he took his butter in a little milk-pail; but that pail was not large enough. Inside of three months he bought a nice butter-carrier. He also began to put up butter in jars, and packages of other form, as people wished. Times changed rapidly after that. It was not long before he bought more cows. Even then he could not supply the demand for his butter, and was compelled to buy some of a neighbor, who was a good butter-maker, to make up for what he could not produce himself. He was not mistaken about thinking that there would be greater satisfaction about this way of doing business than in taking the milk to the creamery. Now he was his own master. He was sure he got that to which his milk entitled him, and the world took on a new aspect.

E. L. VINCENT.

ERGOTISM

During the present season, owing to the heavy rainfall or other climatic conditions, there has been developed upon wild rye and other similar grasses a fungus known as ergot, commonly called "spurred rye." Within the past few weeks a number of complaints have been received at the Kansas Experiment Station from the eastern and central parts of the state indicating that injurious and fatal results have occurred among stock from eating this fungus.

Ergotism is a disease of animals caused by eating ergot either on pasture-grasses or hay. Ergot is a parasitic fungus (Claviceps purpura) that develops on the heads of wild rye, redtop, and similar grasses. This fungus replaces the ordinary seed or grain with a black or brown-black grain much longer than the ordinary rye-grain, cylindrical-pointed and slightly curved. The number of grains of ergot in a single head of rye or grass will vary from one to a dozen or more. The grains of ergot can be easily recognized by their shape and color. There is no dust or smut upon the heads of grain, as there is with some fungi. Ergot does not attack corn or sorghum.

Outbreaks of ergotism occur nearly all over the world, and often cause heavy losses among cattle and horses. Serious losses from ergot in this state have not occurred since 1884, but it is possible that, owing to the abundance of ergot upon grasses the present season, serious loss may follow unless care is exercised to prevent feeding a large amount of ergot. Cold weather and a limited supply of drinking-water seem to favor the development of ergotism.

SYMPTOMS.—The symptoms of ergotism may occur at once after eating the fungus, provided the animal gets a sufficient quantity; or they may occur only after the animal has eaten the fungus for some time. Ergot lessens the blood-supply, especially in the extremities—feet, tail and ears—the affected parts swell, get cold, a well-defined line usually forms about the part, below which the tissue dies and sloughs off. When the feet are attacked the animal becomes very lame. Ergot causes abortion in pregnant animals, but this must not be confounded with contagious abortion among cattle. Ergot also affects the nervous system, causing trembling muscles, weakness, staggering gait, and sometimes convulsions. The digestive system is often affected, and there may be purging, indigestion and abdominal pain. Cattle are more seriously affected by ergot than horses.

TREATMENT.—To prevent the disease, do not feed animals hay or grass containing ergot, and when the disease occurs ergot should be withheld at once. A purge of one pound of epsom salts for adult cattle, or a quart of raw linseed-oil for horses, should be given. Give sloppy, nutritious foods, with plenty of drinking-water. Bathe affected parts, feet, etc., with hot water, rubbing to stimulate circulation, and apply antiseptics, such as a five-per-cent solution of carbolic acid.

Suspected specimens of ergot may be sent to the botanical or veterinary department, Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kan., for identification. Hay that has been cut early is less apt to contain ergot than late-cut hay.—Bulletin of the Kansas Experiment Station, by Prof. N. S. Mayo.

WILL IT PAY TO FEED CATTLE THIS YEAR?

The question whether to feed or not to feed comes up as regularly as the autumns come. There is a class of farmers to whom this question gives no trouble. They feed every year without much reference to the price of feed or the finished product. There is even among these, when they talk about the question, a very great diversity of opinion, and for the benefit of those who feed cattle only occasionally we can do no better than to give the arguments, so far as possible, on both sides of the question.

The uncertain elements in the problem are the probable price of cattle next spring and summer. This will be determined by the supply and the demand. The extent of the supply is not certainly known, for this is a very big country, with a capacity for growing stock almost incomprehensible; nor is the demand certainly known, for that will depend on the general employment of labor and the relative price of beef as compared with pork, mutton, poultry and eggs.

On the one side it is argued that the short corn crop of last year led to fewer cattle being fed than usual, and on account of the fairly good grass on the range to a larger withholding, or rather carrying over, of cattle than customary; that there is an abundance of corn for feeding purposes, at least this year; no end to the supply of fodder; that the steers held back on the range last year must be shipped out this year, and will be; that quite a per cent of the corn in all probability will be fit only for stock-feeding; that a great many inexperienced farmers will feed it as the best way of getting value out of the crop; that money is plentiful and the credit of the farmer excellent, and as a result of all these a very large amount of cattle will go on feed this year, and come into the market from February and March onward to July and August. The danger is that there will be more than the market will take at prices that will bring profit to the feeder who buys feeding-cattle at present prices, and especially in case the present strike, or strikes, should continue, and thus lessen the consumptive demand by placing it out of the power of a large number of laborers to buy beef at current or lower prices. This is the argument against going into cattle-feeding extensively.

The other side of the question may be stated as follows: Labor is fully employed at present, and the strikers are only a small fraction of the great mass of beef-consumers; that there is every prospect that there will be full employment of labor during the next twelve months; that the American laboring man will eat beef; that pork is high in price, and must continue to be until there is a larger supply of both stock hogs and fat hogs on the market, which cannot occur short of a year; that farmers in the poultry-growing states sold off their poultry closely last year, hence the phenomenally high price of both eggs and poultry this summer. While there is an abundance of sheep in sight, the mutton-eating habit cannot be established in a month, six months or a year. They argue that after all there is no great surplus of feeders on the range, and an actual shortage in the corn and grass districts, by reason of close selling as the result of the drought

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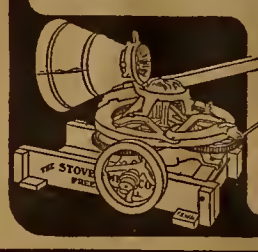
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Live Stock and Dairy

last year. They argue further that the inexperienced feeder is not likely to push in this year and disturb the market; that his corn-cribs are empty; that corn has been a high price for the last twelve months, and that the crop this year will not much more than replenish the stock usually kept on hand and supply the wants of the current year; that the farmer likes to see a good crib of corn, anyhow, and will take his chances of getting his money out of it rather than putting it through the steer; that as a result of all this there will not be an oversurplus of cattle put on feed the country over, and that as it is generally safe to do what the people don't do, that this is a good time to go in and feed cattle.

This, briefly, is the argument on both sides, and we allow our readers to act as judges and reach their own conclusions.—Wallace's Farmer.

THE HEIFERS

It is generally recognized among good dairymen that the dairyman who has not a capital beyond the actual needs of his farming business can most cheaply and profitably replenish or increase his dairy by raising his own cows rather than by buying them. There are many men who claim they can tell a good cow by the looks and feel of her, but as a matter of fact very few actually can. Usually those who have this good opinion of their judgment are willing to back the opinion and judgment with their cash, and continue buying cows; but, as I have said, the more modest dairyman considers he is safer if he raises his cows from calves of his best cows crossed by a superior bull pure in the blood of the dairy breed he prefers. The sire should be good and be from a good cow, with as many good cows in his pedigree as possible. With such a sire the dairyman who has a well-established herd, that he has selected and built up by good feeding, the milk-scales and Babcock test, will find it good business policy to raise all his heifer calves to cowhood, and keep up the process of selection and rejection. Some will be so manifestly bad with their first calves that they need no further probation. Others will not be absolutely condemned until the second or third calf. It must be a matter for the individual dairyman to decide what he shall do with the rejections from his herd—send them to the butcher or sell them to the dealer who makes it his business to sell cows to the fellows who don't raise them. The cows may not be good enough for the exacting producer of them, who may have his standard fixed much higher than the man has who is the patron of the dealer. If the breeding dairyman has a herd of registered animals, and intends to make commercial breeding part of his business, he should by all means send his rejected animals to the block; for unless a registered animal carries with it, in addition to its pedigree, individual and inherited excellencies, it remains a standing discount to him as a breeder and his herd as representing the pure blood of its breed.

It is very little in the future cow's life of usefulness that she be merely well bred, important as being so is. It is wonderfully much in her life that she be well fed. She shall not only be well fed as a calf, but on up until she becomes a cow, and then on in her life forever. It is a pernicious doctrine that some teachers advance, and one that at once proves their lack of knowledge of what they teach, that the heifer shall not be well fed for fear she grows too rapidly and gets fat. I recently read where one such teacher warned against feeding the heifer heavily before parturition, lest she be taken with milk-fever when her offspring comes. I do not think there is a case on record of a heifer having milk-fever. I feed my heavy-milking cows carefully for fear of milk-fever, previous to the critical time of their becoming fresh, but my heifers I have eat all they will for two or three months before they become cows. If the heifers are of dairy families and dairy type I never yet had one get too fat for me. Upon two occasions, however, when I was yet a very young and a very wise breeder, I almost made the mistake of discarding heifers that got quite fleshy and beefy-looking, and to-day they have a record of being among the best cows I ever owned. W. F. McSparran.

DAIRYING ECONOMICS

The problem of supplying sufficient and efficient farm help is a serious and growing one in the agricultural industries. It is therefore becoming more necessary that all practical methods of economizing time and eliminating unnecessary labor should receive greater consideration in order to contend successfully against enlarging expenses and increasing competition.

One serious waste of time and labor among dairymen is the common practice of hauling countless thousands of tons of whole and skimmed milk over millions of miles of roadway, to and from the creameries. This expense if reckoned in the aggregate would be appalling. What would be thought of the cotton-grower should he ship his raw product in bulk from Southern plantations to a Great Lake port to be ginned and baled, or of a Rocky Mountain mine operator who should send his ores to the Atlantic seaboard to be smelted and refined? But are not tens of thousands of our dairymen continuing just as absurd and uneconomic a practice when they needlessly transport the enormous weight and bulk of whole milk in place of the comparatively smaller amount of cream?

In addition to the wastefulness of the practice cited must be added the depreciating effect on the quality of the cream and milk thus handled. No one knows so well as the creamerymen how frequently the whole milk delivered to them is beyond the point of making a first-class article of butter, and no one knows so well as the dairymen how seldom the skimmed milk returned to them is valuable as a stock-food, it being often but germ-infested tankage or poisonous swill.

The losses to the dairy industry do not stop with the wasteful methods of milk-transportation. It is in the butter-manufacturing department, also, that wastefulness abounds to an extent that cannot be duplicated in any other industry of equal importance throughout the length and breadth of our country.

The innumerable small creameries made necessary by the milk-hauling system are largely equipped with inferior, out-of-date machinery and appliances. There is further loss occasioned by the large amounts of capital invested in unnecessary plants and equipments which from lack of patronage are frequently idle more daylight hours than in operation. From the very nature of the case the most skilful operators cannot be afforded where the plants are so intermittently worked and without much regard to business principles. No other manufacturing business could continue for a single season conducted as is the public creamery business, unless it was also in the ranks of those most self-sufficient of people, the farmers.

With cream separated upon the farm, and its wholesale delivery by the best methods of transportation to extensive, up-to-date, continuously operated butter-manufactories, the cost of manufacture could be reduced nearly one half below the present averages, and the product resulting could be materially improved.

A conservative estimate of the losses sustained by the patrons of a single creamery which the writer for a time patronized was an average loss of fifty dollars annually for each patron. Forty patrons lost unnecessarily the use of a horse and driver daily for seven months. The cost of manufacture of the butter was a cent a pound higher than would have been needful in a larger plant, and the quality was at least half a cent a pound poorer than would have resulted from right methods.

The losses above enumerated easily justify the total loss named without including the loss in the feeding value of the skim-milk product, which is by no means inconsiderable. B. F. W. Thorpe.

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Poultry-Raising

By P. H. JACOBS

THE FLOORS

DIRT floors are always damp, as more or less moisture comes from below, to a certain extent. Dirt is an excellent substance, but the best results from its use are obtained when it is scattered liberally over a wooden or cement floor. It is an excellent disinfectant and absorbent, and therefore purifies the house. The ground is not a proper floor. There should always be some dry substance used, such as leaves, cut straw or chaff.

CROP-BOUND

Should a fowl become crop-bound, work the crop well with the hand and endeavor to force away the obstruction in the passageway to the gizzard. Should this fail, draw the skin to one side, and cut the crop sufficiently to relieve it of the contents. Sew up the wound with silk, tying each stitch, and the fowl will not be seriously damaged. After the cutting be sure that the obstruction in the passage is removed as well as the contents of the crop.

FEEDING COTTON-SEED MEAL

If cotton-seed meal is fed it should be given moderately. A teaspoonful three times a week for each hen is ample, while linseed-meal may be given daily. Care should be taken, however, in giving these foods, as they are capable of fattening fowls rapidly, although also highly nitrogenous. Linseed-meal is excellent for molting hens. It not only assists in shedding the feathers, but also invigorates the hens. Bone-meal may be allowed at the same time, as it is easily utilized as a food, thus assisting to build up the bone structure.

BEGIN WITH INCUBATORS

The incubator is quite convenient now, as it can be set at any time, and with as many eggs as the operator wishes to hatch. He does not need to put them in at once, as he does with his hens, but can start it with a goodly number, and put in another hatch later on, after the first hatch is finished. A large number will hatch out together, and there will be no danger of the chicks being picked to death by the hens, when good artificial brooders are used, and in these the chicks will grow up as strong and healthy as if they had their natural mothers.

WHITEWASH

Dust of any kind is obnoxious to lice, but the walls are the best harboring-places of the vermin. The value of lime in the poultry-yard cannot be overestimated; experience teaches that there is nothing more effective as an insect-destroyer than a thick coating of whitewash made of fresh lime and an infusion of crude carbolic acid. Cleanse the house thoroughly before applying, and cover every accessible portion of the woodwork, especially the perches and the sills on which they rest. A generous fumigation of sulphur and tobacco is also advantageous. Do not wait until warm weather to apply whitewash.

COLD-STORAGE CHICKS

There is a large number of late-fall chicks put in cold storage, and placed upon the market early in the spring, which are sold as "early broilers," bringing high prices. The quality of these fall chicks that have been kept over winter does not equal the fresh broilers; but they serve to depress prices, as many buyers are deceived into buying them as spring-hatched chicks. The difference is becoming better known, however, and the cold-storage chicks are usually sold before the main crops of broilers come in. Early broilers always sell as soon as they reach the market, the demand for them increasing every year.

PULLETS AS FALL LAYERS

The pullets that are inclined to lay eggs in winter should begin early, and it will not do to allow them to become too fat or to take heavy colds from cracks or drafts in the poultry-house. It is an excellent time to make meat a large portion of their food, and the poultry-house must be repaired, so as to be made warm before cold weather begins. The cheapest meat is the neck, which can be cut up and boiled for them. If they can be induced to begin laying in November, they will lay until spring, provided they do not get frosted combs. The hen-house must be free from vermin, and made as comfortable for the fowls as possible.

THE FAMILY SUPPLY

The farms do not produce all the poultry and eggs. No one can easily estimate the number of fowls raised in cities, towns and villages. The value is millions of dollars. It demonstrates, however, that the aged and young, and even those in unfortunate circumstances, will find a profit and pleasure in keeping poultry. A few hens soon fill the egg-basket, and with the aid of the scraps from the table, and with a small allowance of extra feed, will keep up the supply until the period arrives in the fall for molting. Where the space is limited the chicks should be used in the family or marketed when young, but the earlier-hatched pullets should be kept to fill the vacancies among the hens. The hens are profitable for five or six years, though occasionally there are exceptions. Young cockerels should always be sold early.

CHANGEABLE YARDS

Changeable yards permit of cleaning the yards by turning under the filth. With two adjoining yards, one may be used as a garden. On the other the fowls should not feed on the same ground continually, but at different places, so as to cover the entire lot at various times during the year, the object being to have the fowls work over the whole surface and distribute the manure evenly. The next year the fowls are changed to the garden-plot, and the gardening done on the plot formerly occupied by the fowls. The result is that the land is enriched by the droppings and the waste food; and as the fowl-yard is plowed once or twice a year, the insects are reduced, the garden crops are larger, while returns come in from eggs during the winter months. Some poultrymen prefer to place fruit-trees in the yards; but by alternating the garden-plot with crops and fowls there are fewer diseases of plants and birds, and a few acres will pay well.

LEGHORN WEIGHTS.—S. M. L., Roanoke, Va., desires to know "the standard weight of Leghorns." There is no standard weight, the males ranging from five to six and one half pounds.

DESIGNS FOR POULTRY-HOUSE.—"Subscriber" wishes "designs for a poultry-house." As there are so many designs, much depends upon the cost. The "New and Complete Poultry Book," issued by the FARM AND FIRESIDE, gives a large number of designs.

CHICKS DYING IN THE SHELLS.—M. B. H., West Fairfield, Pa., desires to know "why chicks die in the shells in incubators when just about to hatch." The cause may be due to the management while operating. Usually the fault is with the eggs, as the fact that the incubator hatches some of them is proof that it should hatch all eggs containing vigorous chicks. Eggs vary, according to condition of the fowls.

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After years of patient study and delving into the dusty record of the past, as well as following modern experiments in the realms of medical science, Dr. James William Kidd, 122 Baltes Building, Fort Wayne, Indiana, makes the startling announcement that he has surely discovered the elixir of life. That he is able with the aid of a mysterious compound, known only to

DR. JAMES WILLIAM KIDD

himself, produced as a result of the years he has spent in searching for this precious life-giving boon, to cure auy and every disease that is known to the humau body. There is no doubt of the doctor's earnestness in making his claim, and the remarkable cures that he is daily effecting seem to bear him out very strongly. His theory which he advances is one of reason and based on sound experience in a medical practice of many years. It costs nothing to try his remarkable "Elixir of Life," as he calls it, for he sends it free to auy one who is a sufferer, in sufficient quantities to convince of its ability to cure, so there is absolutely no risk to run. Some of the cures cited are very remarkable, and but for reliable witnesses would hardly be credited. The lame have thrown away crutches and walked about after two or three trials of the remedy. The sick, given up by home doctors, have been restored to their families and friends in perfect health. Rheumatism, neuralgia, stomach, heart, liver, kidney, blood and skin diseases and bladder troubles disappear as by magic. Headaches, backaches, nervousness, fevers, consumption, coughs, colds, asthma, catarrh, bronchitis and all affections of the throat, luugs or any vital organs are easily overcome in a space of time that is simply marvelous.

Partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, dropsy, gout, scrofula and piles are quickly and permanently removed. It purifies the entire system, blood and tissues, restores normal nerve power, circulation, and a state of perfect health is produced at once. To the doctor all systems are alike and equally affected by this great "Elixir of Life." Send for the remedy to-day. It is free to every sufferer. State what you want to be cured of, and the sure remedy for it will be sent you free by return mail.

DR. W. O. COFFEE'S FAMOUS EYE BOOK FREE

You can save someone's eyesight by writing Dr. Coffee for his famous free eye book. Contains 80 pages; **colored photographs** of eyes from life. An eye history. Contains eye tests; **worth $5 but it is free.** Tells also how to cure cataracts, scums, sore eyes, failing sight—all eye troubles with **painless medicines,** at small expense **at home.** A. J. Palmer, Melrose, Iowa, was cured of blindness in 3 months. Hope for everyone. Advice free.

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THE COMBINATION OIL CURE FOR CANCER

Was originated and perfected by Dr. D. M. Bye. It is soothing and balmy and gives relief from unceasing pain. It has cured more cases than all other treatments combined. Those interested, who desire free books telling about the treatment, save time and expense by addressing the Home Office—Dr. D. M. BYE CO., P. O. Drawer 505, Indianapolis, Ind.

FEW PEOPLE KNOW how useful it is in preserving health and beauty. Inclose 6 cents in stamps for new Plan. Gases in Bowels and Stomach to go, or you will be sick. CHARLES RUSSELL DAVIS CROWELL EVERSON, Macedon, N.Y.

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CURE YOUR OWN CORNS Send 10 cents silver to J. P. WILKINSON Hawks Park, Fla. Immediate relief and final cure. No pain.

The Grange

By MRS. MARY E. LEE

THE OBSERVATORY

How light, compared with ours, are the burdens our neighbors bear.

'Tis a saying trite and true, "Would you have friends, then you must be friendly."

"Things will take a turn" whenever we strive earnestly and wisely to make them turn.

A blue ribbon is not essentially a token of much honor. The whole class must be seen to arrive at an accurate estimate of its worth.

There are a hundred ways of doing anything, and out of the hundred but one right way. Marvel not, nor repine, that you take from the ninety-nine ways. Just push ahead with the light that is given you, and right will somehow win.

Shall not the heart which has received so much trust the Power by which it lives? May it not quit other leadings, and listen to the Soul that has guided it so gently and taught it so much, secure that the future will be worthy of the past?—Emerson.

Let us create in our grange and our homes an atmosphere of hopefulness, cheerfulness and a determined will, that, come what may, we will win success materially, spiritually and mentally. 'Tis given to each the power to develop a noble, cheerful, successful manhood or womanhood. We fall short of our possibilities if we fail to do so.

Of an enthusiastic irrigationist I asked the question, "Suppose we help you irrigate your land? You can raise such magnificent crops at so little expense for cultivation, how could we Eastern farmers, with our hilly land and our fertilizer bills, compete with you?"

"Why, let your land rest five or six years, and then work it. That's the way they did in New England, and they are getting rich by it."

What kaleidoscopic forms facts take when seen from different points of view.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

General Topic—"Grange education."

Topic for October—"What grange exercises are the most productive of mental development among the members?"

Supplementary Topic—"Is there any excuse for any officers not having the ritual-work memorized?"

SURMOUNTING DIFFICULTIES

The history of every successful endeavor if viewed from a distance runs like a romance. I was admiring some beautiful specimens of foreign grapes, grown on Colorado soil, which were exhibited at the state fair. Not only the product, but the exquisite taste with which it was arranged, had a fascination for me. I spoke of it to a newspaper man.

"His fruit-farm evidences the same care," was the reply. "He came to our place several years ago for his health. One of his lungs was entirely gone. The climate benefited him, and he sought a means of livelihood. He began fruit culture in a small way, and raising vegetables in the meantime, for which he found ready market among the miners. The natural outlook was dreary in the extreme. The soil was simply dry sand, with no vegetation save sage-brush and cacti. He laid out ditches, and irrigated his land. He now has one of the finest fruit-farms in our famous valley, and his lawn is a veritable bower of beauty. In fact, the whole farm is a paradise."

Verily, here is a man acquainted with obstacles, and strong in the strength that comes from overcoming them.

THE FARMER WHO FAILS

You have seen him, and heard him bewail the hard lot of the farmer—how he is oppressed by taxes and harried by hard-hearted collectors, how his crops will not grow, his stock dies, and the scarcity of markets for things he has to sell; in fact, he is never able to find a decent market, notwithstanding the fact that there are hundreds of families eager to buy products they feel they have not time to raise. And then the wicked corporations pinch him until he cries out lustily that we are on the verge of a financial crisis. For him, the seasons are too long or too short, too hot or too cold, too wet or too dry. All Nature is at outs with him. We grant that there are hardships and perplexities in the life of the farmer; but so are there in every other line of business. We grant, also, that the profits are not as large as they should be; but this is more the fault of the farmer himself than of any other person. But that all obstacles are beyond our control, and depend on the vengeance of Fate, we cannot admit. It is preposterous and beyond the pale of reason and sense. So far as a living is concerned, any one who has industry, and even ordinary sense, in most regions of our country can raise a great variety of fruit and vegetables, which in the hands of a skilful cook can be made into dainty, wholesome dishes. For the farmer's wife, who has a bounteous Nature to bless her with an abundance, there is no excuse to palliate the offense of poor cookery.

GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH OUR BUSINESS

If one is industrious, economical, sensible to the hours he devotes to labor and to leisure, blessed with a moderate amount of strength, and yet fails, the reason nine cases out of ten is that he isn't well acquainted with the details of his business. He knows, in a general way, that he is not getting on, but he is unable to point to the leakage. And in modern business a few small leaks carried through a series of years means the difference between poverty and affluence.

It is a fit time after the harvest is garnered to take account of the year's work. Find what crop and what field has yielded a profit or loss; what cow, sheep or horse is worth keeping, and what must be disposed of. Unless there has been most careful selection, the chances are that the majority of stock are not good revenue-producers. One should be able to estimate with reasonable accuracy the cost of each product, also its feeding value, that he may be able to determine which crop to raise, where, and in what amount. This is precisely the work our most successful farmers are doing. Possibly they are ignorant of the science of feeding as it is known in our books, but they are keen observers and shrewd thinkers. And their observations and experience if printed would be of invaluable help to the farmer who is determined not to be outstripped in the race of life.

Taking an inventory of our business may cost us our conceit, and even many of our fallacious conclusions, and cherished beliefs and prejudices may die a hard death, but the end is worth working for. Such an inventory is a prescription for the farmer anxious to succeed, and willing to pay the price exacted for success in any line of endeavor.

Few People Realize

The Danger in that Common Disease, Catarrh

Because catarrhal diseases are so common, and because catarrh is not rapidly fatal, people too often overlook and neglect it until some incurable ailment develops as a result of the neglect.

The inflamed condition of the membrane of the nose and throat makes a fertile soil for the germs of Pneumonia and Consumption; in fact, catarrhal pneumonia and catarrhal consumption are the most common forms of these dreaded diseases, which annually cause more than one quarter of the deaths in this country.

Remedies for catarrh are almost as numerous as catarrh sufferers, but very few have any actual merit as a cure, the only good derived being simply a temporary relief.

There is, however, a very effective remedy recently discovered which is rapidly becoming famous for its great value in relieving and permanently curing all forms of catarrhal diseases, whether located in the head, throat, lungs or stomach.

This new catarrh cure is principally composed of a gum derived from the Eucolyptus tree, and this gum possesses extraordinary healing and antiseptic properties. It is taken internally in the form of a lozenge or tablet, pleasant to the taste and so harmless that little children take them with safety and benefit.

Eucolyptus oil and the bark are sometimes used, but are not so convenient nor so palatable as the gum.

Undoubtedly the best quality is found in Stuart's Catarrh Tablets, which may be found in any drug-store, and any catarrh sufferer who has tried douches, inhalers and liquid medicines will be surprised at the rapid improvement after a few days' use of Stuart's Catarrh Tablets, which are composed of the gum of the Eucolyptus tree combined with other antiseptics which destroy the germs of catarrh in the blood and expel the catarrhal poison from the system.

Dr. Ramsdell, in speaking of catarrh and its cure, says, "After many experiments I have given up the idea of curing catarrh by the use of inhalers, washes, salves or liquid medicines. I have always had the best results from Stuart's Catarrh Tablets; the red gum and other valuable antiseptics contained in these tablets make them, in my opinion, far superior to any of the numerous catarrh remedies so extensively advertised. The fact that Stuart's Catarrh Tablets are sold in drug-stores, under protection of a trade-mark, should not prejudice conscientious physicians against them, because their undoubted merit and harmless character make them a remedy which every catarrh sufferer may use with perfect safety and the prospect of a permanent cure.

For colds in the head, for coughs, catarrhal deafness and catarrh of the stomach and liver, people who have tried them say that Stuart's Catarrh Tablets are a household necessity.

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The MOULDED RECORD and the NEW REPRODUCER duplicate the human voice in volume and clearness. Absolutely free from scratching; perfectly smooth and natural. The Moulded Records are "high speed," made of hard wax, freely and safely handled. With the New Recorder perfect records can be made at home. NEW RECORDERS and NEW REPRODUCERS on all PHONOGRAPHS. Ask your dealer for exchange proposition ("Gem" excepted). Phonographs in Nine Styles, $10.00 to $100.00. Records, 50 cents; $5 per dozen.

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THE "BEST" LIGHT is a portable, 100 candle power light, costing only 2cts per week. Makes and burns its own gas. Brighter than electricity or acetylene, and cheaper than kerosene. No Dirt. No Grease. No Odor. Over 100 styles. Lighted instantly with a match. Every lamp warranted. Agents Wanted Everywhere. **THE BEST LIGHT CO.,** 212 E. 5th St., Canton, Ohio.

THE YANKEE FIRE-KINDLER Builds 100 Fires with 3c of Oil. No kindlings. Warranted 3 years. Greatest Seller for Agents ever invented. Sample with terms prepaid, 15c. YANKEE KINDLER CO. ,BLOCK 95 OLNEY, ILL.

If afflicted with weak eyes, use **Thompson's Eye Water**

THE VALUE OF CHARCOAL

Few People Know How Useful It is in Preserving Health and Beauty

Nearly everybody knows that charcoal is the safest and most efficient disinfectant and purifier in nature, but few realize its value when taken into the human system for the same cleansing purpose.

Charcoal is a remedy that the more you take of it the better; it is not a drug at all, but simply absorbs the gases and impurities always present in the stomach and intestines, and carries them out of the system.

Charcoal sweetens the breath after smoking, drinking, or after eating onions and other odorous vegetables.

Charcoal effectually clears and improves the complexion, it whitens the teeth, and further acts as a natural and eminently safe cathartic.

It absorbs the injurious gasses which collect in the stomach and bowels; it disinfects the mouth and throat from the poison of catarrh.

All druggists sell charcoal in one form or another, but probably the best charcoal and the most for the money is in Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges; they are composed of the finest powdered Willow charcoal and other harmless antiseptics in tablet form, or rather in the form of large, pleasant-tasting lozenges, the charcoal being mixed with honey.

The daily use of these lozenges will soon tell in a much improved condition of the general health, better complexion, sweeter breath and purer blood; and the beauty of it is that no possible harm can result from their continued use, but, on the contrary, great benefit.

A Buffalo physician, in speaking of the benefits of charcoal, says, "I advise Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges to all patients suffering from gas in stomach and bowels, and to clear the complexion and purify the breath, mouth and throat; I also believe the liver is greatly benefited by the daily use of them; they cost but twenty-five cents a box at drug-stores, and although in some sense a patent preparation, yet I believe I get more and better charcoal in Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges than in any of the ordinary charcoal tablets."

ARTISTIC MONUMENTS

COST NO MORE THAN PLAIN ONES IN

White Bronze.

"Lest we forget"

Marble is entirely out of date. Granite soon gets moss-grown, discolored, requires constant expense and care, and eventually crumbles back to Mother Earth. Besides it is very expensive.

White Bronze is strictly everlasting. It cannot crumble with the action of frost. Moss-growth is an impossibility. It is more artistic than any stone. Then why not investigate it? It has been adopted for more than a hundred public monuments and by thousands of delighted customers in all parts of the country. Many granite-dealers have used White Bronze in preference to granite for their own burial plots. We have designs from $4.00 to $4,000.00. Write at once for free designs and information. It puts you under no obligations. We deal direct and deliver everywhere.

The Monumental Bronze Co.,
347 Howard Avenue, **Bridgeport, Conn.**

SOLD! UNDER A Positive Guarantee

to wash as clean as can be done on the **washboard**, even to the wristbands and collar of the dirtiest shirt, and with much more ease. This applies to **Terriff's Perfect Washer**, which will be sent on trial at wholesale price. If not satisfactory, money will be refunded. **AGENTS WANTED.** For exclusive territory, terms and prices, write
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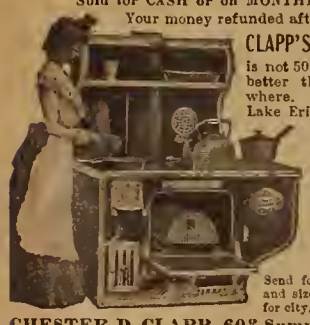
$27.45 For this **Organ** Pay After Received Offer! One Year's Free Trial! 25-Years' Binding Guarantee! All explained in our **FREE MUSIC CATALOGUE.** We sell pianos from **$89.00 to $165.00**, the equal of instruments sold by dealers and agents at **DOUBLE** our prices. High Grade Violins, Guitars and Mandolins at $2.45 and upwards. For our beautifully illustrated, big complete Music Catalogue, lowest prices, free trial and pay after received offer, cut this ad out and mail to **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO.**, Chicago, Ill.

ABSOLUTE RANGE PERFECTION

Sold for CASH or on MONTHLY PAYMENTS
Your money refunded after six months' trial if



CLAPP'S IDEAL STEEL RANGE is not 50 per cent to 100 per cent better than you can buy elsewhere. My superior location on Lake Erie, where iron, steel, coal, freights and skilled labor are the cheapest and best, enables me to furnish a **Top-Notch** Steel Range at a clean saving of $10 to $20 (freight paid east of the Mississippi and north of the Tennessee River), quality considered.

Send for free catalogs of all styles and sizes, with or without reservoir, for city, town or country use.

CHESTER D. CLAPP, 605 Summit St., Toledo, Ohio
(PRACTICAL STOVE AND RANGE MAN)

If afflicted with weak eyes use **Thompson's Eye Water**

Around the Fireside

THE TWO VILLAGES

Above the river on the hill
Lieth a village, white and still,
While all around the forest-trees
Shiver and whisper with the breeze;
Over it sailing shadows go
Of soaring hawk and screaming crow,
And mountain grasses, low and sweet,
Grow in the middle of the street.

Beside the river, 'neath the hill,
Another village lieth still;
There I see on a cloudy night
The twinkling stars of household bright,
Fires that gleam from the smithy's door,
Mists that curl from the river's shore,
But in the road no grasses grow,
No wheels that hasten to and fro.

In that village upon the hill
Never a sound of smith or mill;
Houses thatched with grass or flowers
Bloom and fade with changing hours;
Doors of marble always shut,
Closing entrance to hall or hut;
Silent at rest, they lie in sleep,
Never again to sow or reap;
Never to dream, to mourn or sigh;
Done is their task here, quiet they lie.

In that village 'neath the hill,
When the night is starry and still,
Many a weary soul in prayer
Looks to that other village there,
And weeping, sighing, longs to go
Up to that home from this below;
Longs to rest from this world of strife,
Through the Redeemer to be with wife.
May to that prayer this answer fall,
"Patience, that village shall hold you all."

—Rose Terry Cooke.

A PUNCTUAL BIRD

What tempts the little humming-bird that we see in our gardens to travel every spring from near the equator to as far north as the Arctic Circle, leaving behind him for a season many tropical delights? He is the only one of many humming-birds that leaves the land of gaily colored birds to go into voluntary exile in the North, east of the Mississippi. How it stirs the imagination to picture the solitary, tiny migrant—a mere atom of bird-life—moving above the range of human sight through the vast dome of the sky. Borne swiftly onward by rapidly vibrating little wings, he covers the thousands of miles between his winter home and his summer one by easy stages, and arrives at his chosen destination, weather permitting, at approximately the same date year after year.—Country Life in America.

"THE OLDEST CITY IN AMERICA"

You were doubtless taught that St. Augustine, Florida, is the oldest city in America, and so far as settlements by Europeans are concerned, that is probably correct. But scientists know a city so old that there is no telling when it was built, and they often speak of it as "the oldest city in America." This "city" is Copan, buried in the forests of Honduras, near the Guatemala boundary-line. It is not a city in the modern sense of the word, for it is only a heap of ruins, but there is enough to show that at some time centuries and centuries ago it was a busy center of population. Then the Maya Indians of Yucatan and Central America were at the height of their civilization. They built cities by constructing the bases of great pyramids out of blocks of stone of enormous size. These blocks were taken from quarries sometimes two miles distant, were conveyed to the "city," and placed in the wall in perfect order, and yet it is not known that the Mayas had any machinery for handling such heavy material.

The pyramidal base of Copan is built up to a considerable height, and upon the flat top are placed the palaces, the altars and other smaller pyramids. From all evidence Copan was in ruins when Cortez conquered Mexico in 1521. The Spaniard and his soldiers passed within a short distance of it and did not see the town at all, so it must have been deserted even then. And yet the ruins of Copan bear evidence of having lain there, buried amid the luxuriant foliage of Honduras, for ages, and only some crude inscriptions on the rocks can give a clew to the history of the wonderful place. These inscriptions and carvings still defy solution. There are statues and images made of rock, but they are meaningless. Copan's history is unknown, and so scientists are wont to speak of it as "the oldest city in America."—Pluck.

INDIAN SMOKE-SIGNALS

The Indian had a way of sending up the smoke in rings or puffs, knowing that such a smoke-column would at once be noticed and understood as a signal, and not taken for the smoke of some camp-fire. He made the rings by covering the little fire with his blanket for a moment, then allowing the smoke to ascend, when he instantly covered the fire again. The column of ascending smoke-rings said to every Indian within thirty miles, "Look out! There is an enemy near!" Three smokes built close together meant "Danger." One smoke merely meant "Attention." Two smokes meant "Camp at this place." Travel the plains and the usefulness of this long-distance telephone will at once become apparent.

Sometimes at night the settler or the traveler saw fiery lines crossing the sky, shooting up and falling, perhaps taking a direction diagonal to the lines of vision. He might guess that these were the signals of the Indians, but unless he were an old-timer he might not be able to interpret the signals. The old-timer and the squaw-man knew that one fire-arrow—an arrow prepared by treating the head of the shaft with gunpowder and fine bark—meant the same as the columns of smoke-puffs, "An enemy is near." Two arrows meant "Danger." Three arrows said imperatively, "This danger is great." Several arrows said, "The enemy are too many for us." Thus the untutored savage could telephone fairly well at night as well as in the daytime.—Star Monthly.

BREAD OF ANTIQUITY

In ancient times bread was a term for the whole meal, as meal—ground grain—was the principal diet, although fruits were grown. The dishes were generally stews of rice, beans and burgal (cracked wheat). Dough that was leavened was kneaded in a trough, while if unleavened it was baked thin and quickly.

Of ovens there were both public and private ones, the former being stationary and found only in the towns, where regular bakers were employed, while the portable one—a clay jar about three feet high—was used in every home. Baking was done daily, except on the Sabbath, as meal, particularly that made from inferior grains, lost flavor, or became tasteless, if stored.

Cakes baked for ceremonial offering were of the best, and were prepared with especial care. Bread tempered with oil, and cakes and wafers flavored with honey, were presented at the many feasts, the principal ones being the Feast of the Passover, the Feast of the Pentecost and the Feast of the Tabernacles; while showbread was replaced every Sabbath upon the Temple table.

The best bread was made from wheat, which was the chief crop in ancient Egypt, and is mentioned in interesting connection throughout Scripture, the first reference to it being in the account of Job's sojourn with Laban. "A corn of wheat," mentions the book of John in referring to a particle. Other grains were also grown, among them barley, which was used principally as provender for horses and asses, although it was sometimes used among the poor for bread. "I have not barley-bread to eat," was a saying expressive of the extremity of poverty.

Not a little interesting were the humble methods of old for raising grain and preparing it for bread. Laws regulating the affairs of agriculture formed the chief code of the Hebrews, and tended to produce an equality in interest. The earth was the Lord's, and all were tenants to him. Men, slaves, women and children worked in the field. The plow was a kind of heavy hoe, used in the hand or drawn by animals. Reaping was by pulling out at the roots or by a sickle at the ground or just under the heads, according to what was desired. Camels or other animals were used to carry the sheaves.

Threshing was done in level places in the field, the grain being trodden out by cattle, although sticks and flails were used to thresh small quantities. Winnowing was by tossing the kernels against the wind with a fork and then passing them through a sieve. The grain was stored in earthen, barrel-shaped receptacles underground or in the houses, the inferior seeds being separated from the good ones by hand before using.

So necessary was meal for making the "staff of life" that there was a mill in every home. It consisted of two flat, circular stones, one fitted upon the other, the upper one having an opening through the center to receive the grain, while the meal was discharged at the side and sifted by hand. This mill has been used from time immemorial, its antiquity dating from nearly fifteen years before Christ. The Israelites in their marches in the wilderness ground manna in mills and beat it in mortars. The upper stone had a handle, by which it was turned by women and slaves, more generally by two of them, who sang as they worked. Captives—as Samson—were often forced to grind. Grinding commenced at dawn, and the drone of the millstones and the merry songs were pleasant sounds. If the mill was not working it was a sign of desolation, and for fear there would be a lack of bread a law existed against pledging either of the stones, as each household depended upon its mill for meal.

The bread of Nomadic races is prepared in much the same way to-day, although the commerce of the world is penetrating even remote regions and will soon do away with old-time methods.—Rees Elmond, in Baltimore Methodist.

DO STARS EXPLODE?

The appearance of a new star in the constellation Perseus, and its rapid expansion into a nebula, which has been going on for some time past, have revived among astronomers the theory that some nebulæ may be formed by explosion. About 1870 Professor Bickerton, of Canterbury College, New Zealand, showed that if two stars should graze one another, the abraded parts, if relatively small, would have so high a temperature that they would at once become nebulous, and that the nebula so formed would, under certain conditions, continue to expand until dissipated in space. The present expanding nebula has been growing at the extraordinary rate of several thousand miles a second, and is in many ways one of the greatest celestial wonders of the time.—Success.

The Housewife

THE MAN WHO CLIPPED

I saw him take the paper and
  Turn to the Household Page,
Then scan the columns up and down,
  As one who all would gage.

"Aha!" he muttered to himself,
  "Here's 'How to Make Rice Fritters,'
And 'How to Utilize Cold Beef,'
  And 'Home-made Stomach Bitters.'"

Then from his pocket forth he took
  A pair of scissors, small,
And severed from the printed page
  The helpful hints and all.

He clipped "The Way to Scramble Eggs,"
  And "How to Make Peach Butter,"
As well as half a dozen more.
  "That's all"—again his mutter.

"A thoughtful man," at once I mused,
  "A man who cares for things;
Who loves the calm, contented song
  The home tea-kettle sings."

"Do you," I asked, "preserve those notes
  So that your wife may eye them?"
"Not much," he growled. "I cut them out
  So she won't get to try them."
—Baltimore American.

HOME-MADE NECKWEAR

Almost every woman loves dainty neckwear, but the prices charged in the stores are often beyond the means of ordinary purses. If, however, one is a fairly adept needlewoman, and studies the models shown where choice goods are kept, she may produce some very dainty articles at home at a very small expense. One of the simplest models is made from black baby ribbon. These are fastened together by rows of black silk fagoting to form a stock. In these rows of stitching the narrowest of pink velvet is run, like that through insertion. A large bow with long, rounded ends is made from pink panne velvet, and trimmed around the edges with two rows of the ribbon fagoted together. A white ribbon with fancy, but not colored, stripes on the edges may be cut long enough to pass twice around the neck, and fastened with a bow and ends in front. The ends of the ribbon should be rounded and trimmed with a narrow edge of black velvet ribbon dotted with white. A row of narrow white ribbon may be fagoted to the velvet, and if desired still more elaborate the ribbon may be edged with narrow white or black lace.

Inez Redding.

AN OPEN LETTER

I wonder if some of your readers can tell me through the columns of the Farm and Fireside how to make baskets—not the dainty creations of reeds and raffia, but coarse cotton-baskets, corn-baskets, and the old-fashioned ones like those our grandmothers used when they picked up chips.

I have no objection to knowing the address of a machine that cuts the splints, but I wish most of all to know the best wood in the forest to select for them: and if that is not obtainable, the second best variety. Also what implements are used in splitting them into shape, and if the splints should be seasoned before being made into baskets. Add to this any suggestions in making the baskets, and in reseating the kitchen chairs made of the same material.

I wish to teach a class of young people in southern Georgia, where pennies are scarce, to supply themselves with these articles in spare hours, and make their homes more comfortable without an outlay of money.

Mary E. Wilcox.

We solicit correspondence.—Editor.

JELLY-CYLINDERS

Marion gave an irrepressible laugh. "What are you going to do with all those little round sticks?" she asked.

Her mother-in-law—the picture of a buxom housewife as she stood at the bake-board in gingham dress and big white apron, her sleeves rolled up to her elbows—smiled good-naturedly. "You wait and see," she said, with an air of mock mystery.

Marion had dropped in for a little visit, and incidentally to get a new recipe for pickles. Many a bit of helpful advice did the older woman give the younger, and the experience of years had often helped to smooth the way for the new housewife.

Now the daughter-in-law watched with whetted curiosity as the twelve clean round sticks were greased carefully, and one by one incased in the rich pie-crust dough which had been prepared.

"You see," said the deft baker, greatly enjoying Marion's perplexity, "that I leave one end of the stick showing, and inclose the other end with the dough. Now they are all ready to bake." Then she greased a large, flat pan, placed the little white rolls on it in rows, and quickly slipped the pan into the oven.

When the rolls came out they were a delicate brown, and already looked delicious enough to eat, wooden centers and all. But the little sticks were slipped out, leaving the paste in the form of hollow cylinders about three inches long and one inch in diameter. Mrs. Lewis filled each one with some of her clear apple jelly, then put a spoonful of whipped cream on top of one of the cylinders, and handed it to her daughter-in-law.

"Delicious!" cried Marion when she had tasted the dainty.

"I often have these for Sunday tea. They are great favorites with Joe," said Mrs. Lewis. "I suppose I could buy tin cylinders on which to mold the crust, but I have found that these sticks do very well."

"Where did you get them?"

"Why, don't you know? They are made—dare I tell it?—from a broomstick sawed into the required lengths."

Marion laughed again. "You are a genius," she said. "I shall go right home now, and see about making some for Joe's supper. He shall not miss any of his mother's dainties."

And Joe—dear fellow that he was!—said that the jelly-cylinders that evening had a flavor even more delicious than mother's used to have.

Alice B. Churchill.

BATTENBERG CENTER

Our designs continue to be so popular with our subscribers that we give the design of a Battenberg center, as the pattern is considered one of the choicest, while the stitches are not complicated.

POINT-LACE COLLAR

The fancy braids are used in the collar illustrated on this page, many of which come in very pretty patterns. This collar trims a dress for evening wear very daintily, and should be kept for dress occasions.

QUINCE-CHIPS

Last year we made a delicious conserve of quinces, the recipe of which we want to pass on to our friends.

Peel quinces, and cut into very thin slices on your cabbage-slicer. The slices must be as thin as cut for Saratoga potatoes. Put into your preserving-pan one pint of chips, one pint of water and one pint of sugar. When to the boiling-point let them cook fast just fifteen minutes, then bottle.

The best results are with only this quantity at one boiling.

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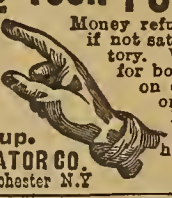
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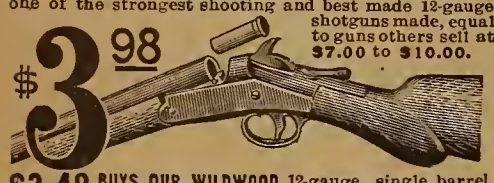

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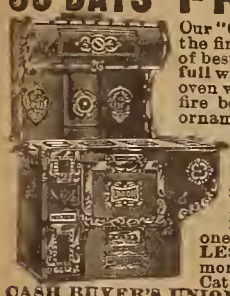

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At the Home of the Onondagas

By LILLA A. WHITNEY

THE Onondaga Reservation, often called the "Castle," is located about eight miles south of Syracuse.

The Reservation contains more than six thousand acres, and the Indians that people it number nearly four hundred, of which it is claimed three hundred can read.

We found the dwellings, with few exceptions, to be of the simplest kind—small frame-houses, with now and then a cabin more rudely built—scattered about in promiscuous fashion, apparently without regard to convenient accessibility. This may have been simply an effect, due to the snow that covered everything; nevertheless, we were unable to discern but the one long street leading from the open country into the Reservation, and upon this the better houses are located. Among the latter we observed one having a bay-window filled with growing plants.

TREE OF THE SIX NATIONS

The school-building is a wooden structure, somewhat larger than the ordinary country school-house, yet no more imposing. It consists of two school-rooms upon the ground floor, divided by sliding-doors, with additional rooms at one side and above for the domestic use of the teachers. The latter are obliged to "keep house," as they say, it being impossible to obtain board among the Indians.

Our first visit was to the advanced department, and we were much pleased to find here maps, charts, blackboards—all the appliances of an up-to-date school-room, even to a piano and a normal-school teacher. It was the pupils, however, that claimed our chief interest. We looked down from the platform upon a score of them, and only their dusky faces and unmistakable Indian features proclaimed their lineage.

Here, indeed, were true descendants of the literal "first families of America." Daughters of the Revolution, Colonial Dames and what-not must veil their faces before the glory of such unimpeachable ancestry.

A development lesson was in progress when we entered the room; the subject of it was the old, familiar poem, "Independence Bell." One verse constituted the lesson, but it was enough. Most of the Indian children speak English brokenly, and we were told that in home conversation their native tongue is always preferred; it is therefore especially necessary that the meaning of no word met in their school-work be allowed to escape them.

Vertical penmanship is taught in the school, and the copy-books indicated as good a degree of average advancement as would be found anywhere with the same grade of pupils. Besides having very good voices the children showed marked proficiency in reading music. The different parts—soprano, tenor, alto—were assigned respectively to pupils occupying three tiers of seats, and not only were all parts carried harmoniously, but the notes were called by name without a mistake.

The dividing-doors were then thrown open, and the little Indians came marching in from the primary department, keeping step to the stirring music of the piano as played by the teacher.

To describe the Indian chorus is impossible. To describe its effect upon the small audience would be equally so. The wild rhythm of its music recalled tales and legends heard long ago. Imagination pictured trees towering above a blazing camp-fire; royal children of the primeval forest gorgeous in paint and feathers circling about it; the tomahawk; the bow—"John, you are off the key, and Livingston, you are singing too fast. You may begin again," said the teacher, and we were suddenly restored to the modern school-room, with its maps and charts and the general insignia of our progressive, twentieth-century civilization.

ONONDAGA RESERVATION COUNCIL HOUSE

We followed the little primaries back to their department, and listened while they rehearsed for our edification the names, places and functions of the principal bones in their own small bodies. The physiology-lesson was conducted with the pupils standing, and the gay-striped jackets of the boys interspersed with the bright ribbons and glittering beads worn by some of the girls made it apparent that the old Indian love of ornament and color had survived the forest and the wigwam. So, also, is the stolid gravity of countenance, and the utter lack of telltale expression inherited from generations of long-ago ancestors repeated in the faces of the Indian children of to-day. Enthusiasm regarding their school-work there must have been. One discerned it in action, in results; it was never betrayed by any sudden lighting up of the eye or play of the features.

Many old Indian names have come down through history, and are repeated at the Castle. Bucktooth, Beaver, Shenandoah and Bluesky are some of them. These originated, no doubt, hundreds of years ago in some special fitness of the name to the attributes of him who first bore it. In what way the Indians fell heir to the modern surnames borne by some of them now is more difficult to tell.

Onondaga Castle boasts of two mission churches—a Methodist and Protestant Episcopal—also an independent church, the Wesleyan Methodist, which was built later. Contradictory as it may seem, we were told that the pagan chiefs voted one hundred dollars of the people's money toward the building of this edifice.

It is among the pagan Indians that the old rites and ceremonies are still observed, and of these it is even now difficult for the white man to obtain reason or explanation. An irrelevant grunt, a nod or a shake of the head is the only reply vouchsafed a questioner on the subject. Traditional reticence is yet characteristic of the modern Indian.

In the afternoon we visited the church of the Episcopal Mission. It has an attractive interior — the walls covered with sacred pictures, a few candles upon the altar, and a cabinet-organ at the left of it. The vested choir is composed entirely of Indian boys, most of whom are the possessors of fine voices.

Adjoining the auditorium is a large room, which is used for various church purposes. It is here that during one afternoon of the week two daughters of the rector teach, respectively, sewing and drawing to the Indian girls.

In the old historic Council House, sometimes called the Long House, the council-fire has never yet died out. There is a tradition to the effect that should the council-fire of the Onondagas be once allowed to go out, the tribes would be broken up, and the Six Nations would be scattered afar. It is at this Council House that representatives from each Castle assemble when matters of common interest claim the attention from all.

The week preceding our visit had furnished such an occasion. It is a long time since the war-whoop sounded or the war-path was trodden, but nothing in many years has so stirred to its center the Indian soul as did the introduction into Congress of a bill providing, among other measures, citizenship for some of the tribes. To fight it the old-time paint and feathers were metaphorically donned, and the tomahawk, rusty from disuse, resurrected. By their violent opposition to this bill the Six Nations have practically placed themselves on record as not wishing to be citizens of the United States. The reason stated by intelligent and fairly educated braves is that their people as a body are not at present fitted for the responsibilities which would devolve upon them as citizens.

The Indian women of Onondaga Castle are experts in the art of basket-weaving, and may be seen the year round, in good weather, wending their way toward the city laden down with a goodly array of baskets of all sizes and descriptions. They dispose of these to chance customers on the route, placing the remainder on sale at the city stores.

Neither are these women far behind their Western sisters in the wonderful Honiton-lace making, for which the latter are fast becoming celebrated. The kind ladies at the Mission House obtain the materials, design the patterns, and when the work is finished prepare it for sale.

As we drove away from the Reservation late in the afternoon the Tree of the Six Nations—a gigantic elm — was pointed out to us. The significance of the name is due not only to the natural division of its trunk into six parts, but to its size and beauty. It stood in the distance, bare of leaf and bud, and with the snow piled high about it; yet the promise of spring was in the air and in the lengthening days, and we knew the old historic tree would soon be decked in all the glory of its summer green.

Children of men! not that your age excel
In pride of life the ages of your sires,
But that ye think clear, feel deep, bear fruit well,
The Friend of Man desires.

—Matthew Arnold.

Sunday Reading

DOCTOR GOODCHEER'S REMEDY

Feel all out of kilter, do you?
  Nothing goes to suit you, quite?
Skies seem sort of dark and clouded,
  Though the day is fair and bright?
Eyes affected—fail to notice
  Beauty spread on every hand?
Hearing so impaired you're missing
  Songs of promise, sweet and grand?

No, your case is not uncommon—
  'Tis a popular distress;
Though 'tis not at all contagious,
  Thousands have it, more or less;
But it yields to simple treatment,
  And is easy, quite, to cure;
If you follow my directions,
  Convalescence, quick, is sure.

Take a bit of cheerful thinking,
  Add a portion of content,
And with both let glad endeavor
  Mixed with earnestness be blent;
These with care and skill compounded
  Will produce a magic oil
That is bound to cure if taken
  With a lot of honest toil.

If your heart is dull and heavy,
  If your hope is pale with doubt,
Try this wondrous Oil of Promise,
  For 'twill drive the evil out.
Who will mix it? Not the druggist
  From the bottles on his shelf;
The ingredients required
  You must find within yourself.
—Nixon Waterman, in Success.

TAKE HEED HOW YE BUILD

WALKING down a busy street of this city I was surprised to see a once large, handsome business house in ruins.

"What is the matter?" I asked a friend. "The walls have fallen, and I fancied that one of the strongest buildings in the city."

"It was strong," was the reply, "but the adjoining building fell, and pulled this down in the general wreck."

I looked on in silence, for strange feelings were disturbing the serenity of my spirit. Solemn questions, which I would rather not have heard, were calling loudly to my spirit ear, demanding recognition and reply.

Why need this beautiful, stately building have fallen? Such studied care had been taken in its erection! The watching eye of the skilled architect had carefully noted every detail. Yet it had fallen, and amid the debris a young life which but a moment before had been glad with beauty and rich with all the possibilities of the future was ebbing fast away. What was the matter?

Only this: In building the adjoining wall some other builder had not been careful. And lo! a beautiful structure was lying in ruins, while a young life, so full of promise, was hurried into eternity, just because some one had blundered, or perhaps had not been careful. With solemn awe I whispered to my shrinking spirit, "No man liveth unto himself. Take heed how ye build."—Anna D. Bradley, in the Christian Herald.

FOR USING HIS BRAINS

A young brakeman on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, who lives near Cumberland, Md., recently received from the railroad company a check for fifty dollars. It was a gift, and accompanying it was this memorandum: "For using his brains."

The story which explains this gift is a very simple one, and yet it is well worth telling. It illustrates a fact which business men and employers are well aware of—that the man of brains is ready to act in an emergency on his own initiative, while the less intelligent person waits to be instructed, and loses the one opportunity for successful action.

This young man was a brakeman on a long freight-train which one day was coming down the grade between Cranberry Summit and Fowlesburg, W. Va. He was on the front of the train, a long distance from the conductor—in the caboose in the rear—from whom he received his orders.

The train stopped with great suddenness. The brakeman did not know why it had stopped; he only knew that the cars were bumping together with noise and violence, and that something was wrong.

He also knew that the west-bound Chicago express passed at about that time. He had not stopped to think this out; he was simply instantly aware of it, and was also aware that if he went back for orders, which would have been the natural, and possibly, in a technical way, the proper thing for him to do, it might be too late to stop the express. Therefore, he rushed forward without orders and flagged the express, which, sure enough, was booming along upon them.

He arrived in the nick of time. A few seconds later would have been too late. As a matter of fact, four or five cars on the freight-train were derailed, and they would have thrown the express into the river.

The acknowledgment from the railroad company of good judgment not only took the form of a check for fifty dollars, but the announcement of it was posted on a bulletin in the stations and shops.—The Epworth Herald.

USE WHAT YOU HAVE

"What is in thine hand, Abel?"

"Nothing but one wee lamb, O God, taken from the flock. I purpose offering it to thee, a willing sacrifice."

And so he did. And the sweet smell of the burning has been filling the air ever since, and constantly going up to God as a perpetual sacrifice of praise.

"What is it thou hast in thine hand, Moses?"

"Nothing but a staff, O God, with which I tend my flocks."

"Take it, and use it for me."

And he did; and with it wrought more wondrous things than Egypt and her proud king had seen before.

"Mary, what is that thou hast in thine hand?"

"Nothing but a pot of sweet-smelling ointment, O God, wherewith I would anoint thine only one called Jesus."

And so she did; and not only did the perfume fill all the house in which they were, but the Bible-reading world has been fragrant with the memory of this blessed act of love, which has ever since been spoken of "for a memorial of her."

"Poor woman, what is it that thou hast in thine hand?"

"Only two mites, Lord. It is very little; but then it is all I have, and I would put it into thy treasury."

And so she did; and the story of her generous giving has ever since wrought like a charm, prompting others to give to the Lord.

"What is it that thou hast in thine hand, Dorcas?"

"Only a needle, Lord."

"Take it, and use it for me."

And so she did; and not only were the suffering poor of Joppa warmly clad, but, inspired by her loving life, "Dorcas Societies" even now continue their benign mission to the poor throughout the earth.—Christian Budget.

The greatest work has always gone hand in hand with the most fervent moral purpose.—Sidney Lanier.

The Family Physician

By ROBERT B. HOUSE, M.D.

BILL OF FARE FOR CONSUMPTIVES

ROBIN advises a large glassful of milk on waking, with a dash of Vichy water. Breakfast at eight with a piece of fat steak, two soft-boiled eggs, a little toast, oatmeal with lots of cream, but little sugar, and two glassfuls of milk or a cupful of coffee. At nine, cod-liver oil and a little milk, or a glassful of milk with the yolk of an egg. At ten, a large cupful of beef-tea made from raw meat, after which the patient lies down until noon. Dinner at half-past twelve, with fish, rice, chicken, cauliflower and a slice of well-buttered bread, one or two glassfuls of milk, with the yolk of an egg. At four, a sandwich of scraped raw beef, fish, mutton or raw beef, with spinach cooked in cream, and blanc-mange or vanilla ice-cream. At eight, cod-liver oil or milk and the yolk of an egg, and at nine or ten, a glassful of iced or very hot milk or a cupful of good beef-tea. At night, if wakeful, a glassful of milk at one or two.

This régime is tolerated by nearly all patients, and has given the best results in his extensive experience. Milk is the constant beverage.—International Medical Journal for June, 1902.

Dr. S. A. Knoff, of New York, says, "The most modern and most successful methods of treating consumption consist exclusively in the scientific and judicious use of fresh air, sunshine, water, abundant and good food, and the help of certain medicinal substances when the just-mentioned hygienic and dietetic means do not suffice in themselves to combat the disease."

TAKE CARE OF THE FEET

Of all parts of the body there is not one which ought to be so carefully attended to as the feet. Every person knows from experience that colds, and many other diseases which proceed from colds, are attributable to cold feet. The feet are so distant from "the wheel at the cistern" of the system that the circulation of the blood may be very easily checked there. Yet for all this, and although every person of common sense should be aware of the truth of what we have stated, there is no part of the human body so much trifled with as the feet. The young and would-be-genteel cramp their toes and feet into thin-soled, bone-pinching boots and shoes, in order to display neat feet, in the fashionable sense of the term.

There is one great evil against which every person should be on his guard, and it is one which is not often guarded against—we mean the changing of warm shoes or boots for cold ones. A change is often made from thick-soled to thin-soled shoes without reflecting upon the consequences which might ensue. In cold weather boots and shoes of good, thick leather, both in soles and uppers, should be worn by all. Water-tights are not good if they are air-tights; india-rubber overshoes should never be worn except in wet, splashy weather, and then not very long at a time. It is hurtful to the feet to wear over them any covering that is air-tight, and for this reason india-rubber should be worn as seldom as possible. No part of the body should be allowed to have a covering that entirely obstructs the passage of carbonic-acid gas outward from the pores of the skin, and the moderate passage of air inward to the skin. Life can be destroyed in a very short time by entirely closing the pores of the skin. Good, warm stockings and thick-soled boots and shoes are conservators of health, and, consequently, of human happiness.—Exchange.

The Family Lawyer

By JUDGE WM. M. ROCKEL

Legal inquiries of general interest from our regular subscribers will be answered in this department free of charge. Querists desiring an immediate answer by mail should remit one dollar, addressed "Law Department," this office.

REVENUE LAW.—H. E., Indiana. On a deed where the consideration is below twenty-five hundred dollars there is no internal-revenue tax; above twenty-five hundred dollars, twenty-five cents for each five hundred dollars.

POLL-TAXES.—N. R., Ohio, wants to know: "If the law has any specified time to have the two days' poll-tax worked out, etc." The statutes provide that the supervisor must order out every person in his district between the fifteenth day of April and the first day of July annually. The trustee may allow such work to be delayed until the first day of November.

FORFEITING ESTATE.—C. A. R., New York, inquires: "If a woman dies without a will, leaving a husband, and a son over twenty-one years of age, and the husband remarries, whether such husband forfeits his life-estate by a subsequent marriage?" I should say not, unless the husband received the property by will, and the will made remarriage a forfeiture.

INHERITANCE.—An old subscriber, Minnesota, inquires: "If a man dies, leaving property, both real and personal, in Minnesota, to whom would the property go, supposing he left a brother and sisters, a widow, but no children?" The real estate would all go to the widow, but would be subject to the debts of the deceased, except as to a homestead, which is exempt.

TWO SETS OF CHILDREN.—F. S., Iowa, gives this question: "A. married, bought some property, and died several years later, leaving two children. B., his widow, married again, and died, leaving three children by the second marriage. Have the children of the first and second marriages equal rights in the property left by B., notwithstanding they received two thirds of the property left by A.?" They are all equal heirs to whatever property B. owned at the time of her death.

DIVORCE.—X. L., New York, asks: "First, does a divorce absolve all property claim? Second, how long after desertion can one enter a plea for divorce? Third, what steps are necessary? Fourth, when a daughter possesses real estate in her own name, is she liable for the support of her parents?" First, yes, generally speaking. Second and third, consult a competent lawyer at your county-seat. Fourth, at common law a child is not liable to support a parent; some states have changed this rule. I am not advised as to the law in New York.

SETTING ASIDE A DEED.—P. G., Ohio, states: "A. has children by his first wife, who dies, and A. marries again. A.'s deed of the land is lost, and the court grants A. a deed through evidence of his first children, stating that A.'s money bought the land. A. sells his land to second children, and makes them a deed, A. and his wife taking life lease on land. A. dies. Can first children break deed or come in for share or do anything?" I should think not. Having by their own evidence enabled the court order a deed made to their father, they would be estopped from asserting anything to the contrary, and the father having the title in his name might make such disposition of the property as he choosed.

The Absent-mindedness of Lias

By SUSIE BOUCHELLE WIGHT

"Yes, Lias is right smart absent-minded." The admission was made with alacrity, for this was Mrs. Collins' favorite theme. "Some of the tales them bad boys tell on him are pure yarns—that about him sawing himself off a log into the mill-pond, and such—but the truth is bad enough, goodness knows, without any trimming hitched onto it!"

Mrs. Collins looked anxiously down the road. It was already long past the time when she expected her husband home, and she had rashly intrusted many commissions to him.

"Like as not he has lost his memorandum, and if he has he will never get home as long as there is a store open in town!"

"Why so?" asked the little school-teacher.

"Well, he will keep recollecting things all the way home—one at a time—and keep going back after them the same way—one at a time." She peered out again before she sat down to her knitting. "I have seen him do some of the funniest things—leastways, they would have been funny if they had not been so aggravating." Mrs. Collins laughed her low, good-natured laugh—the kind peculiar to stout, elderly ladies with rosy cheeks, and as infectious as the ripple of a child's mirth. "It is a regular perfomance for him to get in the buggy, slap the lines over Cricket's back, and say, 'G'lang' and all the time Cricket tied hard and fast to the post. It ain't so bad when it happens here at home, with nobody looking on but me, but I tell you it gets away with me when he does it over at Good Hope, with all the folks from meeting looking on and grinning."

"Why, Mrs. Collins, you ought to remind him," said Mary Levering.

"So I would if I could do it without yelling at him; but you see, it is the custom for us women-folks to wait up at the church door until the men go down to the racks and get the teams, then they drive there and get us. Speaking of Good Hope"—Mrs. Collins shook again—"I went on ahead of him one time to early class; he had to wait at home to finish up some calculating he had on hand, but he was to come on to regular morning service. We had a powerful time that morning—it was protracted-meeting time—and I was mighty nigh to shouting, as I get happy that way sometimes, when lo and behold! here came Lias stepping in, as solemn and sanctimonius as you please. The kind of the living! You could have knocked me down with a feather! He had forgot to change his clothes, and he had on that old flowered dressing-gown and his carpet slippers. The sight of him pretty near broke up that meeting, there was such a snickering; but Brother Martin just went right on with his experience which he was telling, and Lias didn't notice anything but that. As soon as Mr. Martin sat down, up hopped Lias, just as I expected, looking for all the world like a clown, and gave in a tip-top highfalutin testimony. He went on to tell as how he had learned to trust all in the Lord's hands, even the simplest affairs of every-day life, and there I sat feeling like crawling through a crack! Well, right then and there I made up my mind that I was to be the Lord's handmaid to the extent of seeing Lias dressed for church after this, if I never got to another class-meeting as long as I lived."

The two laughed together, and Mary asked, "What do you suppose he is thinking about all the time he is doing such things?"

"Gracious, child, I don't know! I have asked him that time and again, but I never get any satisfaction out of him. It ain't lack of sense, you may take my word for that, for he is as sharp as a brier when it comes to making a trade, and I have always thought he could remember about other things, too, if he was to set his mind to it. One trouble is that he has me to depend on too much. There he is at last." She folded up her knitting quickly, and went out to the gate to meet him. He descended cautiously from the buggy, and gave the reins a twist around the dash-board.

"Well, Sereny, I've got everything this time," he called out, with a note of exultation in his voice. He was much older than his wife, a thin, bent man, with mild, brown eyes peering out of a wrinkled face framed in straggling gray hair and a long and sparse white beard. "Yes, I've got 'em all this time," he repeated, "and more."

"Well, it took you a time to do it," was his wife's comment. She was busily rummaging among the parcels in the foot of the buggy as she took them out, feeling each one in turn, and conjecturing aloud as to their contents. "This one is the piece of apron checks. I reckon the thread is inside—blue? Yes, that's all right," she said, as she tore aside a bit of the wrapping. "Here are the new milk-pans, and the tea. I bet he forgot to get his shoes from the cobbler! No, here they are, and the package of spice! I wonder what in the name of common sense this is! Lias!" she raised her head, and called sharply. "You Lias Collins! You stop unhooking that harness this minute! Do you want to pull this buggy around to the shelter yourself, or are you expecting me to do it?"

"Oh, I clear forgot. Whoa, there, Cricket!" and he proceeded to buckle the straps again.

"Everything all right?" he asked.

"I believe it is, for ten thousand wonders. But what is this flat thing?"

"It is a little present for you, Sereny," he answered, half shamefacedly.

"A present for me?" she said. "Well, is the world coming to an end, I wonder!"

There had been no giving of gifts between this pair in the thirty years of their married life. They had always loved each other in a steadfast, matter-of-fact sort of way, with but little of outward demonstration. She made good-natured fun of his well-known failing, and scolded him mildly when occasion seemed to demand, while he depended on her entirely, and never took exceptions to her jokes. This was the first actual gift he had given her since the engagement-ring, now worn to a slender golden thread. She looked up at his dear old face, and a wave of tenderness swept over her.

"Now, Lias, who put you up to it? I know you never thought of buying me a present all by yourself."

"Yes but I did, though," he said, as he led Cricket away.

Mrs. Collins, with her arms and apron full of bundles, went into the house.

"Come here, Mary," she called. "My old man is getting sentimental in his old age, and has gone and bought me a present. Come, let's see what sort of a curiosity it is."

She untied the twine carefully, and put it in her apron-pocket, then folded the wrapping-paper neatly. The picture—it was obviously a picture—lay face down.

"Now I'll make a guess," she said, standing back a little, with her hands on her hips. "I'll bet he has gone and had his likeness struck for me, and more than likely he forgot to take off his hat and specs, and seeing it is such a windy day, as apt as any way his beard is tucked in his bosom."

"It would at least be natural," laughed Mary. "But you know, Mrs. Collins, the photographer would never have let him be taken that way."

"Well, did you ever!" exclaimed Mrs. Collins a moment later, as she saw the picture. She set it on the table in front of her, and gazed at it, laughing. The old face wore an unwonted expression, and Mary stole away, for she saw that tears were hiding behind the attempt at mirth.

It was a family record, in a showy, gilt frame, and blazoned in all the colors of the rainbow. The dates of their births and marriage were filled out in Lias' old-fashioned handwriting, with many curlicues and flourishes. In the very center of the record were spaces conspicuously labeled "father" and "mother," and they were filled with two old pictures of herself and Lias—hers showing smoothly banded hair on either side of a plump, youthful face, and his an old daguerreotype of a man in a Confederate uniform. Grouped around these were four empty spaces, obviously intended for the offspring of the pair in the center.

"Well, Sereny, how do you like it?" asked Lias. He had come in, and was standing by her side as she examined it.

"Why, Lias, it certainly is a fine ornament, and I must say it shows considerable thought on your part. I wonder how you ever managed to get them old types out of the parlor without me finding you out! But, Lias, I wouldn't dare hang it up in the sitting-room!"

"Why not?" he asked, with falling face.

"Because of these holes," she said, pointing to the empty spaces. "The idea of us setting ourselves up there as 'father' and 'mother,' and us with never a chick nor a child in the house all these years," and she ran a fat forefinger down the row of lines where the birth of children would have been recorded.

"Gentlemen!" he ejaculated, "I plum forgot about that! It would look quare!" He looked so crestfallen and helpless that she hastened to comfort him.

"I'm powerful proud of it anyhow, Lias," she said, and laughed, "and I will hang it in our bedroom. It will always remind me that you had a real, sure-enough thinking-spell for once in your life. We can slip some little fancy pictures in those holes."

She untied the comforter from about his neck, pulled a wisp of the thin, white beard loose from a button of his waistcoat, and then, taking his pipe from the mantel, she filled it and gave it to him. These homely attentions on her part stood to them in the place of the caresses they had never learned to give, and the old man's face soon resumed its lines of calm content.

"Hand me my specs and the 'Advocate,' will you, Sereny, and I'll look over it a little."

"Your specs are right there on top of your head, Lias, and the 'Advocate' is in your hands."

"Well, I declare! I plumb forgot!" With this characteristic speech he settled down to a comfortable smoke and a leisurely perusal of his paper.

The little school-teacher's visit came to a close, and in the days which followed her departure Mrs. Collins was sensible of a new and strange loneliness, which was intensified by the record staring down at her from her chamber wall, with the Sunday-school cards filling the places where she fain would have seen children's faces. Once, many years before, there had been a difference of opinion which had well-nigh separated this homely pair. Her heart was full of unsatisfied mother-love, for Providence had denied them children of their own, and she had begged to be allowed to adopt a child from the Good Hope Orphan's Home. Lias, who was water and wax in other things, was iron in this.

"No, Sereny," he had said, "raising a child costs a lot of money, and our main chance to get along and have a living is only by the little trades I can make from time to time, and by your saving—seeing as I am not overly strong. If the Lord had intended us to raise a child, he would have sent one to us, and it would seem like daring him for us to fetch one here, where he never saw fit to give one."

The matter remained in agitation for some time—Sereny pleading and arguing, and Lias denying—until at last there was a final quarrel, which Sereny could not recall without a shudder. As for Lias, he had forgotten it long ago, for it had been settled as quarrels usually are in wise women's houses, by the wife dropping her insistence in the interests of peace with the head of the house. Thereafter she had expended her motherliness in gentle ministries to her neighbors in times of sickness and trouble, and in an unfailing care for the health and comfort of Lias.

The little, pale-faced school-teacher had come in for her share, and for a whole month of her fall term she had been at the farm-house, and was petted and made much of.

Sereny thought of her wistfully. She was just such a daughter as she would have loved, so quiet and sensible, and so ready with her smiles. There was something about her which made her seem—so Sereny fancied—as though she ought to belong to them, for in her slenderness and the gentle look of her brown eyes there was a faint and far resemblance to Lias. She had often blushed to catch herself fancying how her child would have looked—her child and Lias'!

Soon after this she fell sick, really ill, for the first time in her life, and for weeks she lay racked in pain with muscular rheumatism. The neighbors vied with each other in trying to show their gratitude and love for her, and Lias, distressed beyond measure, broke his previous unexcelled record for absent-minded blunders in the attentions he showered on her. He took especial pains to prepare her meals with his own hands when the neighbors happened to be out of the way, and between burnt toast, queer-looking eggs and suspicious coffee Sereny did not fare sumptuously at his hands in the intervals between her paroxysms of pain. But she accepted all gratefully—the unsavory meals were only incidents; all that really mattered was that in her weakness and pain her husband was possessed with affectionate regard for her. So she did not even grumble when he rubbed her aching shoulders with varnish when he thought he had the turpentine, and anointed her with mustard-plasters made up with the burnt-ocher she kept for her hearths. At last she grew better, and her patient sweetness gave way to the peevishness of the convalescent.

"Lias," she said one day, "that record looks too silly with them cards sticking in it! It worries me!"

"Shall I take it down and put it in the attic?" he asked.

"No! No!" she said, querulously. "It is not to be taken out of my room, never; but you just slip it out of the frame, and take out them cards! I'd rather not see anything there! You might put Mary Levering's picture in one place, though— No you needn't, either!" And then a most dreadful thing happened. Sereny, whose face had seemed framed for cheerfulness, turned over on her pillow, and cried like a baby.

"Why, Sereny, wife, what is the matter?" cried Lias, distractedly. "What is it my—my darling?" He had never used the sweet word before, and at the sound of it she only cried the harder. He raised the covers, and examined the plump feet, to see if they were warm, and felt for her pulse, but could not find it for the excited throbbing of his own trembling fingers. All the time those dreadful sobs kept issuing from the pillow. "Sereny, I am going right after Doctor Malsby if you don't tell me what ails you."

Presently she spoke. "Oh, Lias!" she wailed, "whatever made you bring that record here to remind me that I've never had a blessed little child? Don't you see how helpless we are in our old age and infirmity? And to think dear Mary Levering might have belonged to us as well as not, for she was just an orphan, and stayed at the Home until she was nearly grown! Oh, dear! Oh, dear!"

"Why, Sereny, if it is Mary Levering you want, you shall have her. I've got a right smart little bit saved up, and I can make it worth her while. It would be a good thing to have a nice young girl here to wait on you!"

"Oh, Lias! Lias! As though I wanted a child just for what it could do for me! No, it's a baby I want—a little dumpling darling of a baby—to love and do for, and have it grow up under my eyes! Won't you let me have one from the Home?"

Then Lias remembered the old discussion, so long forgotten, because Sereny had been strong enough to hold her tongue, and a flash of his perversity came back; but Sereny weak and ailing was not to be met as though she were her fat and rosy self, so he only said, "I'll go after Mary Levering if you say so, Sereny."

She wiped her eyes as she turned over, and hushed her sobs. "Not now, Lias—when I get well, maybe." That was the last she said on the subject.

She got well after a while, and life at the old farm-house settled back into its usual ruts. She had a number of new jokes on Lias, and to all appearances was quite content; but with all his capacity for forgetting, Lias was not able to blot out the memory of how Sereny had cried that day, and he never looked at the family record if he could help it, for it brought a most unpleasant pang, and he made up his mind never to take the responsibility of buying another present for

anybody. He had a wholesome dread of ever hearing those sobs again, or it is probable that he would have demolished that record with a high hand.

The summer came again, with its drowsing of bees, its ripening fruits, and waving of green on upland and meadow. Mary Levering was at the farm again for another visit during her vacation, at Mrs. Collins' invitation; but if Lias remembered his proposition to ask her to become a member of the family he gave no sign, and his wife did not see fit to remind him. One August day he drove to Norwood to see about a trade in which he was concerned. It was of unusual importance, so Sereny forebore to burden his mind with any commissions, and she and Mary composed themselves for a long, pleasant, chatty day. They enjoyed each other thoroughly. There was something very winning to Mary in the wholesome character of the older woman, and she was grateful to her for many delicate little attentions, unexpected and such as a loving mother would have delighted to show a grown daughter. Sereny as she petted was not for a moment unaware of that fancied resemblance to Lias, nor of the fact that Mary was just what she would have wished her own girl to be.

"I'd ask her to stay always," she would commune with herself, "but I won't worry Lias! I am ashamed of that caper I cut when I was sick. After that fuss we had that time about adopting a baby I laid my wishes on the altar, and if the Lord will help me, and I know he will, I'll let my sacrifice stay there."

Lias had a harassing day in town. His trade hung fire, and was still unsettled, when the other party put a stop to it all by declaring that it was too late for him to linger longer in town.

"Why, it is sundown, and I must be going, too," said Lias, and they appointed another meeting while they untied their horses, Lias only reminded of this necessary preliminary by the other man's action.

"Hi, there, Mr. Collins! You starting home?" called a voice behind him.

"Yes."

"Well, it won't be out of your way, and I wish you would stop at Tobe Turner's and leave this youngster." He held a sleeping child awkwardly in his arms, and Lias regarded him with curious, dubious eyes.

"What youngster?"

"Why, Tobe's sister died over in Madison day before yesterday, and left this child without any one there to take him. Its pa is dead, too. I happened to be there, and I didn't have the heart to refuse to bring it this far on its way to Tobe's. I reckon it will only tarry there for a short season, though, for Tobe has eight head of children of his own, and must send it to the Home. You'll carry it?"

"Why, yes, I reckon so, if you can fix it some way down in the foot. I don't know nothing about toting babies, and I would be afraid to try it driving."

So the two men made the child as comfortable as they could, with the linen lap-robe as a pillow and with its few extra clothes tucked about it.

"Good-night! Just stop, and call Tobe out. He knows the baby is on the way to him somewhere. Good-night, and much obleeged to you."

"Good-night," said Lias, as he drove out, a little disturbed at first at the thought of his passenger. But he forgot him directly, and wandered away into that realm of thought which he shared with no one. The dogs barking at Tobe Turner's brought no refreshing to his memory, and still unconscious he drew up at his own barn-door, unharnessed the pony, and went into the house.

Sereny had heard him coming, but she was at a critical point in the kneading of her biscuit-dough, and could not go to meet him as usual. He came in, and laid the mail on the table. He was tired and hungry and in no mood to talk, so she hurried her preparations, with Mary's help, and they all sat down together.

"Lias," she said, as he pushed back his chair, "where's the lap-robe?"

"Why, I forgot, and left it in the buggy," and he went out to get it.

Mrs. Collins and Mary cleared away the few dishes, then went on into the sitting-room. Through the open windows they heard the click of the gate, and the old man's slow steps on the graveled walk.

"Sereny! Oh, Sereny!" he called, "bring the lamp here quick!"

She sprang up quickly, and ran out of the room, followed by Mary. "What is the matter, Lias?" she asked, holding the lamp above her head.

"Oh, nothing, nothing," he replied, testily; "only I don't know how to get up the steps with this thing!"

Sereny set the lamp down hastily, and ran down the steps. Lias held the baby in a precarious tenure in his open hands, stretched almost at arms' length from his body. She took it away, and led the way inside.

"Now tell me, Lias Collins, is this another piece of your absent-mindedness? Who does this child belong to?"

When they heard how it came about, she and Mary looked at each other and laughed until they cried, and Lias, with an unwonted show of temper, packed off to bed.

"He's forgot again," whispered Sereny. "He ought to take the little thing right back to Tobe's, but he is so worried out I won't bother him, and one of us can drive over in the morning."

The child had begun to stir, and with blinking eyes and little stretching motions of his limbs he came slowly awake. He was a pretty, rosy, year-old baby, with wide, dark eyes, and clinging, damp rings of yellow hair.

"Isn't he good not to cry a bit, and not to be afraid of strangers?" said Mary; but Sereny was absorbed in holding the glass of milk to his thirsty little lips, and did not answer.

When he had drank his fill the baby gave another series of stretches, and was soon asleep again, cuddling close to Sereny's disturbed bosom. She rocked gently back and forth, and Mary, glancing at her, was reminded of Madonna faces. She did not know nor guess of the long-suppressed longings of her old friend's heart, but she saw that some great emotion was stirring her.

"Mary," Sereny said at length, "do you ever pray?"

"Why, dear Mrs. Collins, of course I do," she replied.

"Well, go to your room, then, and pray that I may be delivered from temptation. This dear little baby, that looks so sweet and innocent, was sent here to try me, and I am just about to come under."

Mary rose, wondering and silent; but before she left the room she stooped to look a moment at the dimpled face snuggling close to Sereny's ample breast, and then she kissed her friend, and turned as if to go.

"Wait, honey," said Sereny; and putting out her arm, she drew the girl to her knees by her side, and in her homely way told her the story of her longings and her sacrifice—even of the humiliating scene when she was sick. "It does seem cruel, Mary, for Lias' wool-gathering to cause me such stress of temptation. I said I'd never say child to him again so long as we lived, but this makes it so hard—this poor, little, helpless thing just flung in my face, as it were, and me under solemn vow! I never told a living soul before, but you seem almost like my own daughter."

"I wish I were your own, dear," said Mary, with trembling lips. "I have been as hungry for a mother as you ever were for a child."

"Sereny," quavered a voice from the doorway; "oh, Sereny, why don't you come on to bed?"

He came nearer, and looked in consternation at the baby on her knee. "Well, I declare! I plumb forgot! I had ought to carry it right back to Tobe's, hadn't I?"

Mary rose, and stood before him. "Mr. Collins," she said, "your wife is under promise not to speak, but I am not, and so I am going to tell you that she is breaking her heart longing for a baby of her own to love and raise, and it looks providential to me that you have brought one here in your own hands and given it to her. Mayn't she keep it?"

"Gentlemen!" he ejaculated, "ain't it the truth? I did fetch that baby here," and he stood looking helplessly down on the work of his hands. He had forgotten Mary's presence in the house, and had come into the sitting-room in the old flowered dressing-gown, with his bare feet thrust into his slippers. Sereny gave him one glance, and the sob which had risen in her throat broke into a hysterical laugh as she was reminded of that day at Good Hope.

"'The smallest affairs of your life,' Lias! You said it, you know you did! He guided you in this, then!" She fell to rocking and patting the little sleeper again.

Lias stroked the long, white beard a long time before he came to a conclusion, but when he arrived at it it was complete.

"Sereny," he said, "I told you I'd like to have Mary Levering, and if she is a mind to stay and help, you'd as well keep the baby as not if you want to."

Sereny gave the child to Mary, and standing up laid both hands on her husband's breast. "Both of them—for always?" she asked.

"Yes, Sereny—my—my darling!"

POLLY AND DOLLY

BY. C. A. PARKER

Polly had gone to the orchard. She was there a good share of the time.

Polly liked the orchard for two reasons: In the first place, it was so nice and shady there, under the big old trees; every one of them made a place for a fine playhouse. In the second place, Polly was very fond of apples, and although those on the trees were too high for her to reach, there were always plenty on the ground, beginning with the early ones in August, and so on through the fall.

Polly had been on the farm nearly three months now. She was often lonesome for papa and mama, but she enjoyed herself at grandpa's very much. She thought she should like to live there always, only, of course, she would want papa and mama there, too.

On this pleasant fall morning she put on her pink sunbonnet soon after breakfast.

"I'm going to the orchard now," she said. "I'll be gone a good while, I expect; it's so nice to-day. Shall I bring you some apples, Grandma, when I come back?"

"Why, yes, dear; I'd be glad to have you," said the old lady. "You may bring this basket full, if you please."

"Well, and I'll carry Dolly in it; that will give her a nice ride."

Dolly was her doll's real name. She had to explain this to people very often; they supposed, of course, that it had another one.

So off Polly trotted with the basket, out of which Dolly smiled very sweetly. Grandma and Aunt Kate watched them until the little pink sunbonnet was out of sight, then they went back to their work.

"Bless her dear heart!" said grandma. "It will be lonesome enough when she is gone!"

"Yes, indeed! I wish we could keep her all the time," Aunt Kate answered, as she set the dishes in the pan

The forenoon passed, and when it was noon grandpa and Uncle Ben and Sam, the hired man, came home to dinner. Polly had not come back, so Aunt Kate ran to the orchard.

She went to the little girl's favorite tree—Polly's tree, they called it—and saw the little red chairs of Polly's and Dolly's, and the basket filled with apples of different sorts, but no Polly. She called and called, louder and louder, but there was no answer.

"The child must be asleep somewhere," said Aunt Kate, so she looked around, calling all the time; then she ran back to the house, and in a few minutes everybody was hunting for Polly, even grandma, who went out as soon as she had put the dinner in the oven to keep warm.

They looked through the yard and the barn, calling and calling, but Polly could not be found.

The well-curb was very high, so there seemed no need for anxiety in that direction, but there was the creek a quarter of a mile away. Nobody spoke of it, but every one thought of it, and presently they were all going in that direction.

It had rained during the night and they looked carefully up and down the banks of the creek, but there were no little footprints to be seen, and they all breathed easier as they started back toward the orchard.

"The basket is gone!" cried Aunt Kate, coming up to Polly's tree.

They hurried to the house, and lo! there sat Polly, with Dolly on her lap, calmly eating her dinner.

"Why, where have you all been?" she inquired, innocently.

"Where have 'you' been, we'd like to know!" exclaimed Aunt Kate.

"Me? Why, you didn't feel worried, did you? You see, just as Dolly and I were ready to come home, Mr. Baker came along in his nice new carriage, and asked if we didn't want to take a ride, and of course we did. We always do, you know. So we rode and rode ever so far; and when I came home there wasn't anybody here, and I was just as hungry! And so I got me some dinner. Ain't you ready to eat now, the rest of you?"

"I think we are," said Aunt Kate, as she set the dishes back upon the table.

THE LAST RIDE OF SENOR GONZALES

Not long ago there died in San Sebastian, in Spain, one Señor Gonzales. He expressed to his sorrowing relatives before his death his desire to be buried in Madrid. A sister of the deceased went to the station to find out what it would cost to transport her brother to the capital. She was surprised and shocked to learn that it would cost three thousand "pesetas." The lady turned away, overcome with melancholy, when a shabby but benevolent bystander offered to tell her how she could settle the matter for a much smaller sum. He told her that if she would give him a slight gratuity he would fix the matter for her. She consented.

It was arranged that the corpse of the late Gonzales should be brought by two stout men, supported between them, with his feet dragging on the ground, as if he were a paralytic; that he should be placed in the corner of a first-class compartment propped up against the window; that the train conductor should be given his first-class ticket and a handsome tip to keep other people out of the compartment. Everything was carried out as prearranged. The late Mr. Gonzales, with an ulster turned up to his ears and a traveling-cap pulled down over his eyes, was propped up in a corner, and the train set out. From time to time the conductor would cast a watchful glance upon Señor Gonzales through the window. Meanwhile he kept intending travelers out of the compartment.

But half way to Madrid a very persistent Englishman defied the conductor's wiles, and made his way into the compartment just as the train started. He noticed his silent fellow-passenger, but said nothing until the desire to smoke seized him. He asked Mr. Gonzales if he objected to smoking. Mr. Gonzales was silent. The Englishman grew somewhat huffed at this boorishness, but did not light his pipe.

After a time he asked Mr. Gonzales if he would not open the window at which he was seated. Mr. Gonzales was still silent. The justly angered Englishman then said, "Sir, since you are not courteous enough either to open the window or reply to me, I will open it myself." Which he did.

In doing so, he was forced to jostle Mr. Gonzales, who fell heavily to the floor. The Englishman was startled, and stooped to assist the stranger to his seat. To his horror, the hand that he clutched was stone-cold. He saw that his fellow-passenger was a corpse.

Another man would have been somewhat rattled under the circumstances; not so the Englishman. He reflected. He said to himself that he was a stranger, knowing little of the language, and would find himself at the end of his journey in a compartment with a corpse. They might accuse him of having murdered the stranger. In that event, the best thing to do was to make way with the "corpus delicti." So said, so done. Mr. Gonzales was heaved out of the window, and the Englishman sat down and lighted his pipe.

As the train rolled into the station at Madrid the conductor opened the door, and was terrified to see that his charge was gone. "Was there not another gentleman in here with you?" he asked the Englishman.

"Yes," replied the imperturbable Englishman; "but a little distance back he got off the train."—S. F. Argonaut.

How to Dress

OUR FASHIONS

There is no woman who will not be able, among the bewildering fancies of the present season, to satisfy completely her longing for beautiful articles of dress, if one may judge from the advance display.

The fashions are changing more and more from severity in lines to a great deal of elaborate ornamentation, clusters or plaits, slot-seams with another color inserted, so that the plain skirt is rapidly disappearing.

The unlined skirt has called forth a number of varied materials—so numerous, in fact, one cannot stop to give their names.

Some skirts for winter wear are thin enough to show the color of the underslip through them, though these will be reserved for evening wear, and for wear when entertaining at home. Even blouses are no longer lined, but worn with separate silk underbodies.

Street costumes in many weaves of cloth are shown, no one color seeming in the lead. The favorite material, however, is one which appears in all colors with flecks of white through it.

Black and white as a combination holds firm sway, and is seen in everything, as well as hats.

If one is contingent to a large city, better results can be attained by buying materials there, even if the home dressmaker is employed to fashion them, as there is a larger variety from which to select. It would be no greater an expense in the end if the family buying could be done all at once, than to be done at intervals and in small instalments. The greatest trial when thus buying is to know what you want, and then stick to it.

The little accessories of this season bid fair to make deep inroads upon one's purse, as they are so attractive and so very fleeting. Any girl deft with her needle can supply herself with them, but the materials themselves are expensive to begin with. This is again a day of fine needlework, and favored is the girl who is herself a good needlewoman, for she can have many accessories at one fourth the prices usually charged at the stores, which, if she had a limited income, she could not afford to pay.

The rapid and decided change in outdoor garments, cloaks, etc., is very noticeable. The box-coat, both long and short, is a great favorite. In black one cannot get a cheap quality, as it too soon shows wear; the other shades can be had much cheaper, and of good quality. Some people hesitate to purchase the light mode shades on account of durability, but they really wear better than cheap black, and when soiled can readily be restored to their pristine freshness by a good cleaner.

In dresses, the sleeves this season are enormous, especially in the lower parts. Much tucking of material is employed in the waist, as well as in the sleeves. We have gone back to employing between four and five yards of material for the waist.

For hats, a combination of felt with velvet is worn. The camel's-hair material is very much used, and comes in beautiful effects.

Ostrich-feathers and cocque-feathers are very popular this season.

CHRISTIE IRVING.

VISITING-GOWN

VISITING-GOWN

Silk costumes of taffeta or peau-de-soie are much in vogue for autumn wear. Stitching is employed with heavy medallions of lace. The cape of cloth trimmed with frills, and long scarf-ends of point d' esprit or chiffon, is just the trifle of warmth needed for an October day. Beautiful capes lined with fur are a feature of this season, also, and as they are of shorter length than formerly they are not so heavy to carry. Capes in all materials will be very much worn.

A revival has been made of the long cape lined with fur, squirrel having the preference above others.

EVENING GOWN

Voile in soft shades of tan is much in vogue for indoor wear. Our model of an evening gown is trimmed with bands of velvet, and fagoting in brown silk, and is combined with deep cream lace. Both blouse and skirt are so designed as to be of special value to such women as aim to reduce apparent size.

LONG KIMONO

We certainly owe thanks to the Japanese women for the introduction of their ideal lounging-robes, which are always so very suggestive of comfort and repose. While the stipulated material to use is always cashmere trimmed with silk where one can indulge in the luxury of expense, for one of more restricted means the beautiful cotton blankets with borders can be converted into the most charming of lounging-robes, which are very comfortable to don during a short illness or for a few hours' rest when one is too tired to bear other dressing. Trimmed with cords and tassels of a contrasting color they are very pretty. The blankets cost from one dollar and fifty cents to two dollars and fifty cents, and the cords and tassels thirty-five cents. The border is used down each side of the front, and also for the collar and the sleeves.

LONG KIMONO

AFTERNOON GOWN

Indoor gowns of soft wools are much in vogue, and charming in the extreme. Henriettas and all the soft materials will be used for the model of the afternoon gown illustrated. In shades of tan trimmed with bands of brown panne stitched with a lighter color this will be found a desirable dress for all home occasions or quiet evening functions. The trimming is especially effective. In tan this suit will be very becoming to a blonde, or in dark blue to a brunette.

EVENING GOWN

NORFOLK-COAT WALKING-SUIT

The Norfolk coat is a great favorite this season as an all-round jacket for a traveling or street suit. The skirt that goes with it is laid in plaits to match, and both garments are heavily stitched. The medallions appear only upon the skirt, and are separately finished before being put on. This suit looks well when made up in the new flecked goods, which only a few years ago was called knickerbocker; still for younger women the various shades of blue are best adapted, as the stitching shows up to better effect. A different color of silk is used for stitching on many suits.

NORFOLK-COAT WALKING-SUIT

FASHION HINTS FOR AUTUMN

The new drop-yokes produce the effect of very drooping shoulders, and are shown in many of the newest models with the yoke of all-over lace extending over the sleeves.

Seams in slot effect remain the distinguishing note in many of the new skirts and jackets, and also in the smart shirt-waists.

There is nothing daintier than well-made and exquisitely decorated lingerie, and since the vogue of fagoting gowns, separate yokes, collars, etc., is at its height, this dainty needlework is likewise applied to underwear. The stitch employed is usually the plain fagoting or herring-bone.

There is a wide assortment of heavy-textured goods, or "mannish" goods, as they are termed, any one of which is appropriate for jacket-and-skirt suits.

Boulevard velvet cords are shown in a wide assortment of colors, and there is no more fashionable material for walking or street costumes.

Fashion has decreed the extensive use of pendant and ball trimming this season, and a great variety is exhibited. Both black and colored samples are procurable, as well as bits of metal and enamel from which iridescent beads and spangles are suspended.

The possibilities of velvet ribbon as an ornamental feature have won for it the highest popularity in trimming net, chiffon and light woolens.—The Delineator.

AFTERNOON GOWN

CARE OF JEWELRY

Always take off your rings when you wash your hands. If you do not it is certain destruction to your rings. Never keep them on at night. If your gloves are tight, this is very apt to help unset the stones. The stones should also be overhauled from time to time, or valuable stones are apt to fall out. Soft tissue-paper with a little eau de cologne on it is a capital cleanser, and everybody should keep a little box of sawdust in which to dry the stones when they have been washed. Diamonds look worse than imitation if they are not kept clean. They want a great deal of polishing. You have to know who you can trust when you send your stones to be polished. Jewelry should never be taken off without being rubbed with a soft handkerchief or cloth, as jewelry is generally slightly soiled by contact with the skin.

TWO WAYS OF HELPING

There is nothing more beautiful in this world than to observe the tenderness of some girls toward their aged relatives. Dear grandmother cannot thread her needles so easily as she used to do, and is sensitive on the subject, and does not like to be too obviously helped.

Mattie, a kind-hearted girl without much tact, will exclaim, "Oh, Gran! What perfect nonsense for you to fuss over that needle. You know you cannot find the hole where the thread should go in; your eyes are too old. I'll thread your needles."

The intention is most excellent, but the old lady is hurt, and stifles a sigh.

Edith, in the same circumstances, manages in another fashion. She simply threads a dozen needles, and leaves them all ready for grandmama in her needle-book, saying, pleasantly, "It saves so much time in these days to have one's needles all ready and waiting."

Any of these patterns furnished from this office for ten cents. Waist and skirt can be purchased as separate patterns.

EVENING GOWN.—Waist, No. 4212. Bust measures, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches. Skirt, No. 4244. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches.

LONG KIMONO.—No. 4243. Bust measures, 32, 36 and 40 inches.

NORFOLK-COAT WALKING-SUIT.—Coat, No. 4246. Bust measures, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches. Skirt, No. 4249. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches.

AFTERNOON GOWN.—Waist, No. 4250. Bust measures, 32, 36 and 40 inches. Skirt, No. 4206. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches.

VISITING-GOWN.—Cape, No. 3819. Bust measures, 34, 38 and 42 inches. Skirt, No. 4247. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches.

The Young People

WHAT ONE BOY COULD DO

He was small for his age, worked in a signal-box, and booked trains. One day the men were chaffing him about being so small. One of them said, "You will never amount to much. You will never be able to pull these levers; you are too small."

The little fellow looked at them. "Well," he said, "I can do something that none of you can do."

"Ah, what is that?" they all cried.

"I don't know that I ought to tell you."

They were all anxious to know, and urged him to tell them what he could do that none of them were able to do. Said one of the men, "What is it, boy?"

"I can keep from swearing and drinking," replied the little fellow.

There were blushes on the men's faces, and they didn't seem anxious for any further information on the subject.—Ram's Horn.

POINTS GLEANED FOR BOYS TO THINK ABOUT

Forty years ago a stable-boy cleaned the horses of a prosperous hotel proprietor, who drove into Denver for supplies. Now that boy is Governor Orman, of Colorado, and the hotel-keeper, with shattered fortunes, is glad to accept a place as watchman of a capitol corridor, at the hand of the former stable-boy.

The late President McKinley, when traveling through the West shortly before his death, saw through the car-window a bare-foot farmer boy. He remarked to his companions that that was the kind of a boy he had been. The party included the Cabinet, three governors of states and four United States Senators; yet every one of them confessed that he had been just as humble and just as rustic in his early years.

President James A. Garfield, himself of humble origin, said in an address to young people: "Let me beg of you in the outset of your career to dismiss from your minds all idea of succeeding by luck. There is no more common thought among young people than that foolish one that by and by something will turn up by which they will suddenly achieve fame or fortune. No, young gentlemen, things don't turn up in this world unless somebody turns them up."

Many years ago two farmer boys attended the same country school in Ohio. One was a "smart" boy, who got his lessons easily, and was a favorite, whose future was thought to be bright. The other was slow to learn, and was called dull. No one predicted that he would amount to anything. The dull boy, by quickly seizing an opportunity, secured an appointment to West Point, graduated by hard study, went West, engaged in business, went out of business at his country's call, and after many ups and downs entered the White House as President Grant. The "bright boy" did not go to West Point. He did not go anywhere or do anything beyond making a poor living on a neighboring farm.

The message from every successful life-history is that no circumstances of birth, heredity or so-called chance can absolutely bar the way to any determined soul. Man was made to rise superior to outward things, and if he fails he alone is to blame. He may not know his weakness, his fault, his mistake, but it is somewhere. Some step was taken on the wrong road, some duty was neglected, some opportunity not seized. No matter how many times you have been set back, there is still a chance for you. It is harder to climb after a slip, but rally your forces, and up you go. Never repine over seeming misfortune or hampering environment. These should merely serve to show of what stuff you are made. Success is in you, and failure is in you, and you may choose which you will show forth.—The Religious Telescope.

"LANDMARKS"—A ROAD GAME

The Porter family was returning from a fortnight's visit to grandpa and grandma, twenty-six miles away. They were journeying in their own carriage, and three miles back Old Whitey had gone lame, and although Dick, the other horse, did the best he could, they were obliged to jog along in a very tedious fashion. Mama had a headache, and sat back with her eyes shut, looking so pale and tired!

"Oh, dear," fretted Lulu, "we never shall get home!"

"It's hotter'n an oven!" growled Asher.

"I wish I had a parasol; I'd get out and walk!" grumbled Ella.

"Have patience, children! It's only five miles farther," said Mr. Porter, cheerily, glancing over his shoulder at his wife.

Josephine was just as tired as the others, but she did not have time to think of herself, she was so busy thinking of mama and doing little things for her comfort.

"Let's try a new game," she proposed. "I played it the other night when I was coming home with father, and it's great fun."

"I don't see how we can play anything here," said Lulu. "What is it?"

"All shut your eyes," ordered Josephine, "and then when I say 'Now!' each one is to guess where we are before opening his eyes."

"Huh, that's easy enough!" said Asher.

"I don't know," responded Ella. "Seems to me 'twill be hard."

"All ready?" asked Josephine. "Now, mind, you mustn't open your eyes a wink till we've every one guessed."

A silence fell on the party, broken only by Asher's "Hurry up and say when!"

"You must keep thinking where we are," answered Josephine.

"Now!" she announced a while later. "Lulu, you guess first."

"Almost to the bridge."

"Asher next."

"By the old sawmill. Why, I declare, we've gone 'way past it!"

"Now, Asher, you went and looked before Josephine and I had had a chance!" pouted Ella.

"Oh, I forgot! Well, let's try it again, and I'll play fair, true! It's better'n I thought."

Another silence, and then the four guesses were taken:

"At Mr. Grant's."

"Along by Aunt Dixey's."

"At the egg-tree house." (This was named by the Porter children from a little tree that stood out in the front yard, with egg-shells tied on its branches for ornaments.)

"Just this side of the gorge."

"Oh, Josephine's right!" cried Ella. "I didn't suppose we were so far along."

"Let's try again," urged Lulu. "It's fun!"

Over and over the guessing went on, while the tired mother rested because the children were contented and happy, until at last the home orchards were reached without being thought of by anybody.

"That's good sport," said Asher, as he jumped out. "What do you call it?"

"How would 'landmarks' do?" suggested Mr. Porter.—Caroline Wheaton, in Youth's Companion.

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These patterns retail in fashion bazaars and stores for twenty-five to forty cents each, but in order to increase the demand for our paper among strangers, and to make it more valuable than ever to our old friends, we offer them to the lady readers of our paper for the low price of only **10 cents each.** Or

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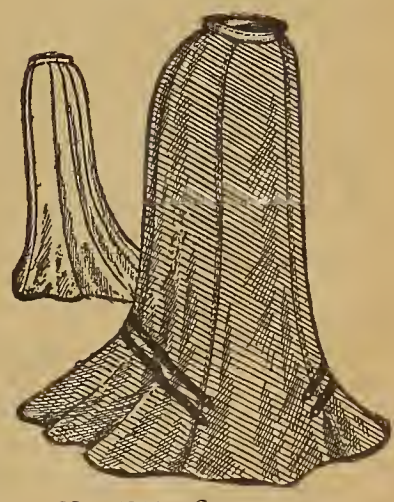

No. 4244.—Seven-gored Skirt. 11 cents. Sizes, 22 to 36 inches waist.

Wit and Humor

Little gobs of powder,
Little specks of paint,
Make the little freckle
Look as if it ain't.
—Sphinx.

WHICH?

"He died very suddenly, didn't he?"
"Very."
"Christian or medical science?"—Life.

HIS PEOPLE

"Remember, my dear brethren," said the minister, "that charity covereth a multitude of sins. I hope you'll be unusually generous in your offering this morning."—Detroit Free Press.

THE WORST TROUBLE

"Is there anything harder to bear than real trouble?" I asked the intellectual man who sat next to me in the smoker.

"Only imaginary trouble," he replied. —Judge.

HOW CRUEL

"Yes," said the haughty young woman who was a Colonial Dame as well as a Daughter of the Revolution, "my great-great-grandsire fell at Bunker Hill."

"Ice or banana-skin?" inquired the polite young man from Milwaukee.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

MR. MEEK'S CAT

Everybody could see he was peculiar the moment he sat down for his first meal at a boarding-house near Herald Square the other day, and no one made any attempt to converse with him. The little man looked uncomfortable, and glanced about furtively, until, getting a little bolder, he suddenly broke out with "My name's Meek." Then he looked about expectantly, and seeing that ice was not yet broken started out bravely to tell about a pet cat he once owned.

But the conversational ball would not roll, and two young women began to giggle greatly, when the matronly woman who taught in a mission-school became merciful. She smiled upon the crestfallen Mr. Meek, and just to say something, asked, "Was your cat an Angora, Mr. Meek?"

Mr. Meek thought a moment, and then replied, bravely, "No; it was a tom."

The lover of cats has sought a new boarding-house.—New York Telegram.

HER WISDOM

"Every Child Her Own Solomon" is a text that may come up for discussion in some of the clubs after the color-question is disposed of, now that little Miss Kohlsaat has argued and won a case of her own. The little girl lost a much-beloved pet dog some time ago, and recently saw it riding in a carriage with a handsomely gowned woman. The carriage was going very slowly, and near the pavement, and the little girl delightedly called her pet by name. With a whine of joy the animal sprang from the vehicle, and running to little Miss Kohlsaat, began jumping about her and licking her hands for sheer joy.

"You can't have my dog, little girl," called the woman from her carriage, which had now drawn up to the curb.

"But this is my dog," said little Miss Kohlsaat.

"No, it is my dog," said the woman.

"I'll prove that it is mine," replied little Miss Kohlsaat, with the blood born of determination and justice.

By this time quite a crowd of children and passers-by had collected, and the girl, with the dog in her arms, faced her antagonist as a lawyer faces a jury.

"Can your dog stand up and beg?" said she.

"Yes," answered the woman.

"Can he jump through a hoop?"

"Yes."

"Can he lie down and play dead?"

"Yes."

"Can he dance on his hind feet?"

"Yes."

"Can he say his prayers?"

"Yes."

Closing her arms tightly about the dog, and starting to walk away, the child cried, triumphantly, "Well my dog can't. He is mine, then."

And she won.—Chicago Evening Post.

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The Poland-China hog called "Old Tom" was raised in Minnesota, and was exhibited at Minnesota State Fair in 1897 by the owner, I. W. Case, of Crow Wing, Minn. This cut was made from a photograph taken at the state fair. He made a Big Gain by eating "International Stock Food." It always makes hogs Big, Fat and Healthy.

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Winning names in this contest are to be selected by a committee of three disinterested prominent and impartial persons.

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We require no money to enter this contest. Simply choose a name suitable for such a charming spot and send it to us, with your name and address plainly written.

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FOR OUR CHARMING NEW PICTURE

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No. 52 SIZE 20 BY 30 INCHES IN TEN COLORS AND GOLD

WHAT WILL YOU NAME IT?

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If you will notice the illustration you will see that the artist has displayed more than the usual amount of genius. He has painted a wide gilt border, in exact imitation of a gold frame, so that a *frame is not needed.* It has the full appearance of a handsome gold frame three inches in width. All that is necessary is to fasten the four corners to the wall with pins, and it will have the full effect of a magnificent picture in a heavy gold frame. It is quite proper at the present time to hang works of art without frames. However, this picture can be framed if you so desire.

SUBJECT The subject is a beautiful young girl, with a most pleasing smile, fondling a calf, and the scene is in a meadow-field. The girl is attired in a pretty pink lawn dress with a yoke of loose white material. She wears a rough-straw picture-hat, trimmed with buttercups, poppies and lilies-of-the-valley.

The illustration here can give but a meager idea of the charming beauty of the picture. It must be seen to be appreciated. It is fresh from the artist's brush, and never before offered to the public, so that FARM AND FIRESIDE readers have the first opportunity to secure a copy.

TEN COLORS The colors and tints, the lights and shadows that the artist uses in his make-up of the sky and the clouds and the distant hills, the vale and the stream and the meadow; the rosy-cheeked, smiling, beautiful young girl, dressed in pink, and her pet, create one of the most striking and exquisite color pictures of its kind that we have ever seen. The artist has employed no less than ten of the most delicate and beautiful colors and gold in his creation of this charming work of art.

EVERY HOME SHOULD HAVE IT Our ability to reproduce exactly such a magnificent work of art, that usually costs a fortune to own the original, places it within the reach of all. Every home in the land now has a chance to secure one of the pictures. An opportunity like this should not be neglected, but taken at once. The influence for good that high art has on the minds of both the young and the old should not be overlooked. Make home cheerful, bright and attractive, and thus cultivate that which is wholesome and good.

SIZE The exact size of this magnificent new work of art is 20 by 30 inches, which makes a large and elegant wall-decoration. The cut on this page is greatly reduced in size.

THREE WAYS TO WIN $100.00 CASH

1st We will send one copy of this magnificent new picture, together with a whole year's subscription to the FARM AND FIRESIDE, new or renewal, and allow you to suggest one name for the picture for only 50 cents.

2d You can accept any offer in our paper which includes a year's subscription to the FARM AND FIRESIDE, and add 25 cents extra for one of these pictures, and be entitled to suggest one name for the picture.

3d Send one dollar for three pictures and three years' subscription to the FARM AND FIRESIDE, and you can suggest three names for the picture. The papers and pictures can be mailed to different addresses.

AN IMPARTIAL COMMITTEE will be appointed to choose from among the names that which they believe to be the most appropriate. When deciding upon the merits of the names and making a selection, this committee will have no way of knowing who suggested the names.

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In case more than one person suggests the name selected, the prize will be equally divided. THE CONTEST CLOSES JANUARY 1, 1903.

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Farm Selections

THE NATIONAL BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

THIS organization, which consists of about a thousand members, and is of much greater importance than the number would indicate, held its thirty-third annual meeting in Denver, Col., on the third, fourth and fifth of September in joint session with the Colorado State Bee-keepers' Association, which had previously held twenty-two annual meetings.

At the evening session of the first day of the convention the association was welcomed by the governor, the president of the Denver Chamber of Commerce and the president of the Colorado bee-keepers. Appropriate responses were given by President Hutchinson, Secretary Mason and Director Miller of the National Bee-keepers' Association, after which came the feature of the evening, a lecture by E. R. Root, of Medina, Ohio, on "Bee-keeping from the Atlantic to the Pacific as Seen Through the Camera and Stereopticon." Mr. Root, who is editor of "Gleanings in Bee Culture," has had unusual opportunities for observation, and the pictures which he threw on the great screen were very instructive to the large audience that filled the hall. This lecture was of a popular nature, and yet furnished instruction and information for many in the honey business.

The second evening of the convention was devoted to a lecture, illustrated with magic-lantern pictures, on "The Outside and Inside of a Honey-bee," by Prof. C. P. Gillette, of the Colorado Agricultural College. Professor Gillette has given much study to bees and their work, and his lecture was full of information to every one who heard it.

I have said that most of the lectures, papers and discussions had to do with the scientific and practical aspects of the bee-keeper's business. The following titles of papers will bear out the saying: "The Future of Bee-keeping;" "Reporting the Honey Crop;" "Bee-keeping Lessons that May be Learned from the Word 'Locality;'" "Selling Extracted Honey at Wholesale;" "Putting up Extracted Honey for Retail Trade;" "Managing Out-apiaries for Comb-honey."

All parts of the country contributed to the success of the convention. The president, W. Z. Hutchinson, who was honored by being reëlected, is from Flint, Mich.; Secretary Mason, who has served the association for six or eight years, came all the way from Toledo, Ohio, to help elect as his successor George W. York, of Chicago, editor of the "American Bee Journal;" New York had no less than five members in attendance, among them Vice-President O. L. Hershiser and W. L. Coggshall, the latter of whom has bees in New York, Colorado, Cuba, and where else I know not, his Colorado apiaries containing a thousand colonies; Prof. Frank Benton, the bee expert of the Department of Agriculture, came from Washington, D. C.; Secretary Louis H. Scholl, of the Texas association, was the most conspicuous representative of the state that contains more bees than any other, and F. E. Brown was alone in representing the great honey-producing state of California.

Excepting Colorado, Ohio furnished the largest number of members in attendance, with New York next in order. Then came Illinois and Utah, each furnishing four members. Nebraska and Missouri sent three each. The remainder of the outside members came singly or in twos from the other states and from Canada. This does not indicate a very large national convention; but as the proceedings of these meetings are fully reported by an expert stenographer, every member of the association gets the benefit of all the papers and discussions. Not only do the members of the association read the proceedings, but the subscribers of half a dozen or more bee journals, and a great many agricultural papers contain more or less complete accounts of the meeting; so that what was said and done by the bee-keepers who met and talked in the Denver convention will be known to many thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of people interested in bees and honey.

D. W. WORKING.

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THEODORE ROOSEVELT contributes an article of unusual public interest on The Presidency.
(This highly important article was written before Mr. Roosevelt received his nomination as Vice-President.)

C. A. STEPHENS, That Merry Golden Wedding.
THE DUKE OF ARGYLL, The Ventures of Robert Bruce.
JUSTICE DAVID J. BREWER, The Supreme Court.
T. P. O'CONNOR, Prime Ministers' Wives.
SARAH ORNE JEWETT, A Thanksgiving Story.
HENRY VAN DYKE, Keeping Christmas.
WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, M. P., On the Flank of the Army.
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Always name your post-office.

COMMENT

CLOVER-SEED

The clover-seed outlook is for good prices. The "Crop Reporter" says that the acreage of clover-seed has been considerably reduced since last year, only two of the principal states—Maryland and Ohio—reporting even a small increase. The later Ohio reports of light to fair yields are in line with the earlier reports of the seed not filling well.

THE CORN CROP OF 1902

Based on the large acreage planted, and on the condition in the early summer, estimates were made predicting the largest corn crop ever grown. But over a large part of the corn belt July, August and September weather was decidedly unfavorable for a big yield of sound, well-matured corn. It has been a season of rank, late growth and soft corn. Of soft corn the amount is enormous. It is not fit for market, and feeders are doing their best to utilize it on the farm. It is now certain that the yield of sound, marketable corn not only falls far below the early estimates, but is also below the normal yield of sound corn in good crop years. It is difficult to tell how much effect the grossly exaggerated estimates have had in bearing down the price, but it is certain that the price will in time be properly adjusted to the actual supply and demand for sound corn. The grower who now has sound corn in his crib has a good investment.

A BETTER SYSTEM OF TENANT-FARMING

In an interview by the "Live Stock World" on the subject of land-fertility under tenant-farming a very successful Illinois cattle-breeder says:

"Cash renting does run down the land, but no man who has his own welfare at stake will permit his tenant to sell off his grain and take a cash rent as his share. We aim to put tenants in charge of our property who farm just as we would ourselves. That is a system profitable to all interested and insuring conservation of fertility. We rent on shares, the owner taking two fifths of the crop. The tenant is also required to give us an option on his share of the grain and hay at prevailing market prices. By this means all the stuff raised is fed on the farm, and in addition we buy large quantities of feed. In addition to giving the owner two fifths of the crop the tenant is required to feed all the cattle kept on the place by the owner. Wherever this system is pursued tenant-farming will be deprived of all disadvantages."

REMEDIES FOR TRUST EVILS

In an able address recently delivered at Pittsburg Attorney-General Knox challenged the proposition that we are hopelessly helpless under our form of government to deal with serious problems, and maintained that Congress could make effective laws for remedying trust evils.

"That there are evils and abuses in trust promotions, purposes, organizations, methods, management and effects," he said, "none questions except those who have profited by those evils. That all or any of these abuses are to be found in every large organization called a trust no one would assert who valued his reputation for sane judgment.

"The conspicuous noxious features of trusts, existent and possible, are these: Overcapitalization, lack of publicity of operation, discrimination in prices to destroy competition, insufficient personal responsibility of officers and directors for corporate management, tendency to monopoly and lack of appreciation in their management of their relations to the people, for whose benefit they are permitted to exist.

"Overcapitalization is the chief cause of these, and the source from which the minor ones flow. It is the possibility of overcapitalization that furnishes the temptations and opportunities for most of the others. Overcapitalization does not mean large capitalization or capitalization adequate for the greatest undertakings. It is the imposition upon an undertaking of a liability without a corresponding asset to represent it. Therefore overcapitalization is a fraud upon those who contribute the real capital either originally or by purchase, and the efforts to realize dividends thereon from operations is a fradulent imposition of a burden upon the public.

"Primarily it is for the Congress to decide whether it has the power, and whether and to what extent it will execute it—what character of restraints, whether all or those only which are unreasonable and injurious shall fall under the ban, whether legislation in the first instance should extend to all commerce or only to commerce in articles of vital importance to the people. The time never was when the English-speaking people permitted the articles necessary for their existence to be monopolized or controlled, and all devices to that end found condemnation in the body of their laws. The great English judges pronounced that such manifestations of human avarice required no statute to declare their unlawfulness, that they were crimes against common law—that is, against common right.

"It is difficult to improve upon the great unwritten code known as the common law. Under its salutary guaranties and restraints the English-speaking people have attained wealth and power. It condemns monopoly, and contracts in restraint of trade as well. The distinction, however, between restraints that are reasonable in view of all the circumstances and those which are unreasonable is recognized and has been followed in this country by the courts.

"This distinction makes a rule that may be practically applied, and preserves the rational mean between unrestrained commerce and the absolute freedom of contract."

AFFAIRS OF NOTE AND MEN OF MARK

Luther Burbank, whose work in hybridizing and breeding plants is the marvel of the horticultural world, gave the secret of his success when he said: "The plant-breeder is an explorer into the infinite. He will have 'no time to make money,' and his castle—the brain—must be clear and alert in throwing aside fossil ideas and rapidly replacing them with living, throbbing thought, followed by action. Then, and not until then, shall he create marvels of beauty and value in new expressions of materialized force, for everything of value must be produced by the intelligent application of the forces of Nature which are always at our command."

Mr. Burbank was born in Lancaster, Mass., March 7, 1849. His love for plants was developed when he was a mere child, and when a boy at work in a plow-factory his spare time was spent among them. On account of the suitable climate he moved to Santa Rosa, Cal., in 1875, and since then his life has been consecrated to the work of producing new creations in fruits and flowers, for which he has genius of the highest order.

In a recent speech Secretary Shaw said: "Give us a currency as secure, a banking policy as elastic, a system of weights and measures as conventional as our rivals; give us nonpartizan support to such measures as will establish lines of steamship communication with countries in South America, South Africa and the islands adjacent; give us the Isthmian Canal, and we ought to be able to maintain such relations to the commerce of the world as will conserve the peace and good-will of all nations, while we carry beneath every sky a language that breathes liberty and patriotism and the object-lesson of a flag that stands for equal rights and justice according to law."

Governor William A. Stone, of Pennsylvania, was born in 1846. Before he was eighteen he ran away from school and joined the Union army. At his father's request he was released, and sent back to school. A few months later he reënlisted, and served until the close of the war, making an honorable record, and becoming a second lieutenant before his twentieth birthday. In public life he has served as state's attorney, United States district attorney, four terms in Congress, and as governor of his native state since 1898.

Dr. Edward Eggleston, clergyman, editor, novelist and historian, who died at his home, "Owl's Nest," Lake George, N. Y., September 3, 1902, was born at Vevay, Ind., December 10, 1837. His boyhood and early manhood were spent in the pioneer region of the Middle West in the old stage-coach days, and he knew intimately the life so aptly portrayed in "The Hoosier Schoolmaster" and other novels that gained immediate and deserved popularity and established his literary reputation. Twenty-two years of his life were spent in the active service of the Methodist church as preacher and editor. Since 1879 his time was devoted to literature, principally historical, and such works as "Famous American Indians" and "The Transit of Civilization from England to America" added to his fame.

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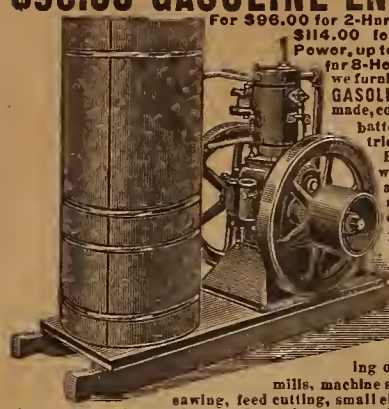

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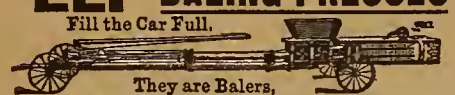

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Mr. Greiner Says:

Good Pay for Good Work.—In employing help of any kind on the farm my first aim is to secure good work. I do not object to giving good pay. In fact, I expect to do it. I find it a good deal more profitable to pay a good price for doing my work as it ought to be done than to hire cheap labor and have it poorly done.

Independence.—The close observer in the political field will soon come to the conclusion that ninety-nine are born to follow where one is born to lead. It is well to talk political independence, but the great majority of people are content to let things drift. When a leader appears, they may follow, but they are bound to be led; and if no leader appears, they will do nothing. You can't "change the nature of the beast"—and nature has done well for political bosses. Pity 'tis, 'tis true.

Local Treatment for Local Conditions.—To prevent the progress of rot in potatoes after storage the usual advice given is to sprinkle plaster or dry lime over the tubers, and store them in a dry place. A reader in Utah now writes that in that arid climate potatoes are more subject to injury by a dry rot than by excessive dampness. He has found the use of lime decidedly detrimental. Lime when applied to stored potatoes has only served to hasten the rot. One year in particular, when he had used lime freely, almost the entire crop rotted in his cellar, and had to be hauled to a vacant place—to his great loss. Undoubtedly this is a different form of rot than afflicts the potatoes here in the East. When potatoes are sound I believe they will keep in a damp place just as well as when kept quite dry.

Unthinking Farmers.—A Buffalo Sunday paper derails the "unthinking" farmer for shooting robins and other birds, claiming that their services far exceed in value the amount of depredations. The city paper is wrong again. Farmers have been thinking about the bird problem, and weighing the evidence "pro and con" for years, and finally have come to the conclusion that they must throw sentiment aside, and look at the problem from the standpoint of common sense and practical utility. The discussions on the bird question in the agricultural press, in bulletins, etc., have been very thorough. The trouble is with the city papers. They think too much, and know too little, of the facts in the case. In regard to the robin, I fully agree with the editor of the "Rural New Yorker" when he states as his own opinion that the robin is one of our most useless birds. "As a matter of business—all sentiment aside—we believe fruit-farmers would be better off if the robin were driven away." I can only wish good luck to the pot-hunters who slaughter the robins by the thousands when migrating South, and have no fear that I shall not have more than I want on the premises when next cherry-time comes around.

Improvement of Native Fruits.—A. W. B., a reader in Albion, N. Y., sends me some clusters of elderberries of unusually large size. He says: "The bush came up in my back yard, and bore last year for the first time. This year it bore a good crop of just such berries as I sent you, only some clusters were larger and better filled. Many who have tasted them pronounce the quality better than the common ones—not so strong and bitter. Many of the individual berries are above one fourth of an inch in diameter. I have picked some that were so large that four placed touching one another measured one and one fourth inches. The seeds are no larger than in the common small berries, therefore making more pulp in proportion. I intend to grow some seedlings from this bush, as there may be a possibility of further improvement." Yes, there is such a possibility, and efforts should be made in this direction. I knew of a bush in a friend's yard which gave berries of easily twice the size of the common elderberries, but a new owner of the place, ignorant of the possible value of the bush, has cut it down. If it sprouts up again, and can be found, I will try to save and propagate it. After awhile I am sure some good fruit will be evolved from our present ordinary elderberry.

Soiling-crops.—G. S., of Payette, Idaho, asks for an expression of my opinion of sand-vetch as a fertilizer, and how it compares with red clover or alfalfa either as a generator of nitrogen or to plow under green; also what is the value of "Pencillaria" as a forage-plant. The hairy vetch is now being generally recognized as one of the very best orchard cover-crops. It has all the advantages of crimson clover, with the additional one of being hardy. When seed is sown in summer or early fall a good winter cover will be provided, and the land can be brought under cultivation again in spring. Red clover is not a good cover-crop, although one of the very best to furnish humus and nitrogen to the soil, and to bring up other plant-foods from the subsoil to the surface. The great value of alfalfa lies in its superior advantages as a forage-crop, and it can be used to advantage to occupy the same soil for a series of years. It has this special purpose, rather than as a link in crop-rotation or as a soil-improver. And so far as vetch is concerned, I would again call the attention of farmers to the chances it offers for profit in growing seed for sale. The plant sent out as "Pencillaria" is, I believe, nothing more nor less than the pearl millet, so much talked about years ago. It is well for our friends to try all these fodder-crops—Kafir-corn, Jerusalem corn, pearl millet and other millets—but I expect that they will discover after a few such trials that "corn is still king." Pearl millet, making a coarse growth, is hard to cure, and its cultivation is usually soon abandoned in favor of common corn, the fodder crop "par excellence" of all the other crops.

Mr. Grundy Says:

Visit the School.—One thing every farmer and farmer's wife should do this winter is to visit the school at least once. It is a duty they owe the teacher, their children and the cause of education. Unless the parent evinces a decided interest in the education of his children it is not likely that any one else will. If the teacher sees that the parents are earnestly desirous that their children shall make good and substantial progress in their studies, and that they be surrounded with all the necessary comforts and conveniences to that end, he will take vastly more interest in his work and the advancement of the pupils under his charge.

Another thing. If there is any comfort or convenience lacking, the visitor should not go home and whine and chatter about it, nor ask the teacher to call on the school officers and demand that it be supplied; but he or she should at once see the officers and call their attention to it. Quite often the officers are very busy, and have but little time to look up these matters, but at the same time they would be glad to have their attention called to them, so that they can supply them at their next meeting. The school-house should be made as attractive as possible both inside and out, and people should not expect the officers to attend to all the smaller matters of decoration and ornament, but should attend to it themselves. In almost every neighborhood there is one or more "clubs" or "societies," and it would be a good idea for these to take in hand the matter of beautifying the school-house. A little effort along this line by a "society" or by a club formed for that special purpose will accomplish wonders. Good pictures are cheap, and tasteful frames can readily be made by the skilful fingers of the farmer's wife and daughters.

Instructive Specimens.—A fruit-jar filled with the soil of the locality is an interesting study. It should be gathered when a well is being dug in the neighborhood, and should be carefully filled in with layers one inch in thickness, each inch showing the character of the soil at each foot of depth. Then jars of the leading varieties of corn, wheat, oats and other products grown in the locality, arranged in layers the same as the soils, are very interesting. In fact, there is no end to the many things and combinations of things that a live "club" can fix and tastefully arrange to make the school-house an interesting and attractive place. These things need not be permanent fixtures, but can be changed occasionally—new pictures, new frames to old pictures, new grains, seeds and grasses being substituted. A specimen of each of the different weeds that infest the locality, with a card attached, on which is the name, habits, etc., is an easy method of instructing without teaching. One week for each specimen is long enough to fix its name and principal characteristics in the minds of the pupils. Not all teachers can teach even the rudiments of agriculture—in fact, not one in twenty can—but with the assistance of a "club" that will provide the museum, specimens with descriptions, etc., any live teacher can instil into the minds of the pupils a vast amount of information not found in our school-books, and do it without making any special effort or taking time usually devoted to the regular course.

Improve and Beautify.—Referring to my talk in the October 1st Farm and Fireside, the mayor of a town in Kansas says: "Reformers and statesmen lament that so many country lads leave the farms for the big cities, where so many of them fall into sin or insignificance. Who is to blame? Bright boys go to the large towns and cities, and observe the nice appearance of homes, streets and buildings, the lights, flowers, the fine boulevards and parks, and the contrast is so great as compared with the frowzy farm home and slatternly country village that they can never go back. My remedy is like yours—to improve the farm home and beautify the country town. It can be done."

To show that this man means what he says I quote from a local paper: "Any man of industry and patience can grow trees; there may be another man in the state who can place and build such a park as Glover built—but we doubt it. The trees were chosen each with an idea to the future; the forms, habits and growth were understood by the planter; the shrubs were set with a view to adding detail. The park as a whole is a handsome bit of varied woodland, with sweeping entrance and curving paths leading into shadowy depths. You see now what Glover saw in the early nineties, when he straightened his back above the hoe and stopped to wipe the sweat off his spectacles. You see now fruition of matured plans. There may be something to criticize; we didn't see it. The park in its radiant beauty is a power for good. Its lessons are potent and far-reaching. No right-minded man or woman can be in the presence of such glorious beauty of Nature and not be better for it, and go away determined to make their own surroundings better. This feeling has pervaded the whole town. We venture that there is not in any town of its size west of the Mississippi River half so many well-kept grounds and tidy, inviting homes as in this little Bluff City. This example has bred in the children a love for the beautiful in Nature and a respect for property-rights. They have access to the park at all times, and no flower is plucked or leaf destroyed by those old enough to know, and the larger ones guard the smaller. The town is clean, wholesome, has a high moral standard, and takes pride and interest in the better things."

This is the result of work done away back in the nineties. The work of a man who planted, hoed, raked and watered when the air was red a mile high with Kansas soil; who had faith in Nature, his hoe and watering-can, and stuck to it when half the people of the town rushed to Oklahoma—stuck to it when all his neighbors considered him a crank, and declared that all his labor would amount to nothing.

All Over the Farm

SOIL-EXHAUSTION

PROFESSOR WHITNEY, Chief of Division of Soils, United States Department of Agriculture, makes the following statement: "I have never in my experience seen a case in which one could say with any degree of certainty, or even probability, that exhaustion was due to the actual removal of plant-food. It is perfectly safe to say that the condition of the so-called worn-out soils in the South is due not to an actual extraction of plant-food, but to the chemical condition in which it now is, in which it is unavailable to plants, and that the restoration of the fertility of that land must be not necessarily in the addition of plant-food to the soil, but in bringing about such changes in the physical conditions or in the chemical combinations as will encourage that natural weathering of the soil which brings the plant-food into a condition in which the plant can get its support."

The authority quoted is a high one, and his words have weight. He knows of no soil once fertile that has been cropped down to such a point that chemical analysis would not show the presence of great quantities of plant-food. An unproductive condition of a field once fertile does not signify that plant-food has been removed by cropping to the point of exhaustion, but that the physical condition of that field has been permitted to become bad, or that the plant-food in the soil is permitted to rest in such chemical combinations that plants cannot use it. A clear conception of this fact affects our farm methods—if fertility were gone we should add all required to produce crops, whereas if it is present we should seek to release it.

FEEDING ON THE FARM.—There is no better way of keeping land fertile than by feeding all crops upon it, because manure is fertility pretty quickly available, and we are less dependent upon the natural strength of the soil. More than this, the incorporation of manure with the soil furnishes both physical and chemical conditions, that enable the plant to use some of the original soil-elements. But we have a class of writers who assume that this is the only rational way, regardless of the fact that the Creator must have intended that people eat something besides meat and milk, and that grains, vegetables and fruits must be taken away from the farms producing them. If that be true it is a narrow view that is taken by any one urging all to feed their farm products for the sake of the land's fertility. Other ways of maintaining it are open to us, and Professor Whitney's statement indicates a leading one. Half of the fertility of the crops now fed on the farm fails to get back to the land through the manure on account of careless methods. This is woeful waste, because the plant-food in it is so readily available, but it is mentioned to show that many a stockman is far more dependent upon the natural strength of his land for plant-food than he realizes, and that which he does in part, and often unknowingly, another may wholly do by keeping his soil in good physical condition through sods and fertilizing crops without any feeding upon the farm. The method is unsafe in careless hands, and a good supply of manure is the best key for unlocking additional soil-fertility; but the chief need of farmers to-day is to recognize the importance of a good physical condition of the soil, and to regard it, rather than the amount of plant-food they may be putting into the ground or taking out of it.

THE PART HUMUS PLAYS.—One of our experiment stations, after observing that humus "plays a more important rôle in agriculture than has generally been ascribed to it," says that as humus decreases in soils they "become less productive, less retentive of moisture, and inferior in physical quality, while on the other hand it was found that an increase in the percentage of humus is accompanied not only with an increase in percentage of phosphoric acid extracted with the humus, but also with a greater productivity of the soil. As the humus increases it seems to cause portions of the phosphoric acid, till then existing in an insoluble form, to become transformed into a soluble form, and thus, presumably, to become more readily available as plant-food."

Here is a clear statement of fact, and it is in accord with experience. The advocates of clover have been told that it added only nitrogen to the soil, and could not be a dependence for growing crops to be sold from the farm. But the vital point is that clover gives to land a good stock of rich humus, and it puts land into prime physical condition. When we plow down the second crop of clover we have in roots and tops enough organic matter to free some of the inexhaustible supply of natural fertility referred to by Professor Whitney, and we have a condition of the soil that makes possible the holding of a goodly supply of moisture.

WHEN CLOVER FAILS.—We may not get the clover all the time, but we can get some humus-producing crops, and when the soil is well stocked with the organic material it is safe for cropping. The man who plows down sods at short intervals, uses winter cover-crops, and plows under cow-peas, soy-beans or other such material, feeds his soil more surely than the man who feeds his crops on his farm and lets half the fertility in his feed fail to get back to the land producing the crops. There is nothing in the claim that no one should plow down that which can be converted into feed, because the manure can be returned, while the food value is saved. Local conditions determine the correct practice, and just so long as there is carelessness in the saving and spreading of manure it were far better for the land that it be fed directly with a manurial crop many a time when it is robbed of its crop with a promise only half fulfilled.

In all this there is no lack of appreciation of stable manure. It is folly to fail to save all the manure that is made, and to make all consistent with profit. But a great mass of products of the soil must be sold, and we should see the truth that we need not return all the plant-food removed, but we must maintain the best possible physical condition and good chemical conditions by keeping the soil well stocked with humus-making material. We need not worry about exhaustion so long as we keep clover and other legumes rotting in the soil; when clover fails, and when we are unwilling to use other legumes and to plow down sods frequently, exhaustion of the humus locks up the natural strength of the land. Let the soil have organic matter and it will furnish the conditions for cropping. Manure furnishes it most safely, but if it were the only source our plight would indeed be sad. DAVID.

ALFALFA FOR HOGS

The hog is much more of a grass animal by nature than it has, in many cases, any chance to be under domestication. The successful feeder, however, recognizes the fact that the most profitable gains can be made on good pasture, with a small allowance of grain to finish for the market. Clover is a great favorite for hog-pastures, but those who have tried both clover and alfalfa find the alfalfa superior. It stands pasturing better than clover, and is a better feed. Alfalfa affords an ideal hog-pasture, and if judiciously treated and good hogs are raised there is no part of the farm that will give the satisfaction that the alfalfa pasture does. Pigs weighing thirty to sixty pounds, ten to fifteen head to the acre, put on alfalfa pasture in the spring, should ordinarily make a gain of one hundred pounds each, but too severe pasturing will destroy the plants. This number will not keep the pasture all eaten down, and it should be mowed occasionally, about the same as for hay. The growth will be fresh after the mowing, and to keep the pasture fresh, cut only part of it at a time. This will tend to give rest, as well as to make better feed. Hogs may be left to subsist exclusively on the green alfalfa, but better results are obtained by feeding a small quantity of grain with it. Exceedingly large returns are obtained from the small quantities fed; the alfalfa, being green and bulky, needs the grain to balance its effect. The pasturage not only affords a cheap growth, but the bulky character expands the digestive tract of the hog, thus enabling it to utilize a large quantity of feed when the finishing-period comes, which is a very important consideration. Excellent results may also be obtained by cutting the alfalfa and feeding it green to the hogs, but pasturing is more satisfactory.

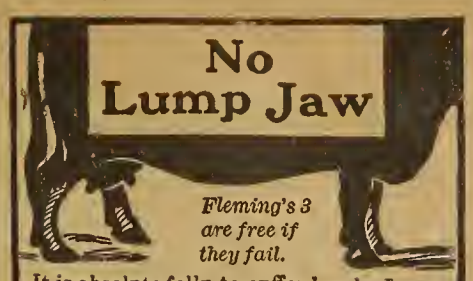
The worth of alfalfa for hogs is not confined to its use when green, as the dry hay is very valuable. The Kansas experiment station fed fattening hogs grain and dry alfalfa hay just thrown in the pen in forkfuls as compared with grain alone, and secured eight hundred and sixty-eight pounds of pork a ton of alfalfa hay. The hogs fed grain and alfalfa hay made a gain in nine weeks of 90.9 pounds a head, and the hogs fed grain alone for the same time gained 52.4 pounds a head. One bushel of grain and 7.83 pounds of alfalfa hay produced 10.88 pounds of gain, while one bushel of grain alone produced only 7.48 pounds of gain. Pigs at the experiment station pastured through the summer on alfalfa, after deducting the probable gain due to a small allowance of corn, made a gain of seven hundred and seventy-six pounds of pork for each acre of pasture. These facts indicate that the most profitable production of pork is possible only when alfalfa is used as a part of the swine ration. It is not impossible that in the near future the hog that eats alfalfa will regulate the price of pork.

Alfalfa may be pastured lightly with hogs the second year after sowing, but it is best to wait until the third year. Under no consideration is it safe to the alfalfa to pasture it the first year. After the plants have obtained root-hold, as they will by the third year, the hogs cannot pull them up, and if given plenty of range and a little grain they will not root to any extent. The alfalfa should be disked and harrowed at least every spring, to keep the field smooth. If grass is troublesome, disking any time during the summer will be beneficial.

Alfalfa hay for hogs should be specially cut and cured for this purpose. The hay should contain as large proportion of leaves and as small stems as possible, as hogs do not eat the coarser parts. The last cutting is generally the best for hogs, and should be cut just as the first bloom appears; the stems will then be less woody and the hogs will like it better. The best care should be taken in curing this hay. The leaves are especially valuable, and should be retained so far as possible.

The best device for feeding is a flat trough three feet wide and six inches deep and long enough to accommodate the number of hogs. Throw the alfalfa in this and the hogs will do the rest; some of the larger stems may be rejected, and can then be thrown out. The trough saves the leaves, which may fall off and will be picked up later. Grinding the hay to a meal and feeding in various ways has been tried, but feeding the whole hay gives the best results.

Alfalfa hay is especially valuable for brood-sows and young pigs. Corn contains too much fat-producing and not enough blood, bone and muscle producing material for these classes; alfalfa contains this growth-producing material in abundance, and is cooling and laxative—the two important qualities in the feed of the brood-sows, especially just previous to farrowing. There is always more or less complaint coming from the strictly corn-growing districts concerning the poor "luck" sows are having with their pigs, but this is not common where alfalfa is made a part of their feed. The reason for the trouble is that a strictly corn diet does not furnish the material for the pigs in the fetal stage. —From F. D. Coburn's book, "Alfalfa."



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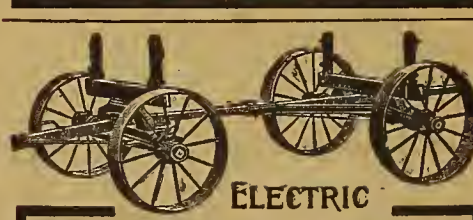

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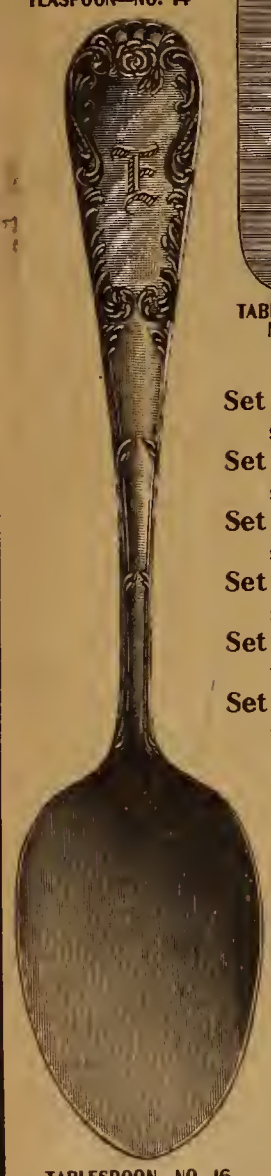
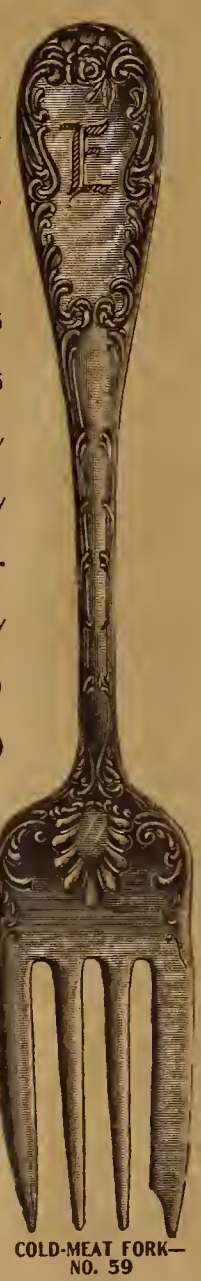
One Child's Set (Knife, Fork and Spoon) given for 3 yearly subscriptions.
Sugar-Shell and Butter-Knife (both) given for 3 yearly subscriptions.



TABLESPOON—NO. 16



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In the Field

Growers who depend on selecting seed-corn from the cribs next spring will take great risks. Over all the northern part of the corn belt rains and cool summer nights kept corn green until the sharp frosts of mid-September. The later rains caused unusual damage to corn in the shock, and winter is to follow.

PENNING UP THE FLOODS

The storage reservoir for irrigation purposes is not a new thing in Colorado, but the construction of reservoirs for the catching and impounding of flood-waters is of comparative recent date. Floods are so uncertain as to their coming that capital has been slow to embark in enterprises based upon chance alone. To build a reservoir with no immediate prospects of filling it with water has appeared too chimerical for the ordinary promoter, so the majority of storage reservoirs built thus far have been designed to be filled from surer sources. They have no independent supply-ditches, but are filled through the regular irrigating-ditches. Of course, they take what flood-water may be received through such channels, but they have depended mainly upon such savings as could be made from the natural streams during the period between one irrigation season and another.

The present year, however, has seen the construction, in northern Colorado at least, of some exclusively flood reservoirs, and has unfortunately seen floods that have not only demonstrated the feasibility of the proposition, but have afforded the promoters valuable returns for their outlay of capital.

The reservoirs of the North Poudre Irrigation Company, of Fort Collins, designed for the catching of flood-waters, were constructed during the winter and spring of 1902, in the midst of one of the most severe droughts experienced in Colorado for many years. There was very little rainfall, the streams were excessively low, and there were very meager deposits of snow in the mountains. But the reservoirs were finished all the same, and stood ready to receive water whenever it might come.

On September 20th it did come, and in unexpected quantities, too. The rain continued almost steadily for about forty hours. According to the records kept by the meteorologist at the Colorado Agricultural College, the total rainfall for the forty hours amounted to 6.84 inches. The country was flooded. The water rose in the Cache la Poudre River from less than one hundred cubic feet a second to eight hundred and forty cubic feet a second. The other streams saw a like increase. Of course, the crops were pretty well harvested, and the land being flooded anyhow, there was no call for irrigation-water, so all the surplus was at the disposal of the storage reservoirs, and good use was made of it.

The best example of the saving of this flood-water was that shown by the Fossil Creek reservoirs of the company named. Within twenty-four hours after the rain began falling the water in the reservoir had risen fourteen feet, indicating an increase in the volume of water held of forty-four million cubic feet. Within four days after the commencement of the storm the water had risen seventeen feet, making the increase in volume one hundred million cubic feet. October 1st the water had risen twenty feet, with a daily increase then apparent of three inches.

Every irrigation company in the Cache la Poudre Valley having storage reservoirs, and who were ready to receive water, received all the water they could handle, and the prospects are good for the filling of every reservoir to its fullest capacity before the opening of the next irrigation season. H. A. Crafts.

Correspondence and Comment

From Idaho.—I came to this country about two years ago, and live in Kootenai County, on the Cour de Alene Lake. We are all new settlers here. It is mostly timber-land, but a great cattle country, there being an abundance of grass. The winters are not so cold as in the East, the climate being much like that of eastern Washington. G. L.

Stinson, Kootenai County, Idaho.

From New York.—Washington County is somewhat noted in history as being the scene of Burgoyne's march from Ticonderoga and to Fort Edward, where Jane McCree was murdered by the Indians. It is also noted for having once been the banner county of New York in the production of potatoes. This is still a leading industry. The big swamps, comprising an area of some thousand acres, are devoted to raising potatoes entirely, and have been for forty years or more. The average yield at present is about one hundred bushels an acre. This constant potato-culture is kept up by use of artificial fertilizers and by manure drawn from the near-by villages. On the upland in this vicinity a rotation of corn, potatoes, grain and clover is practised. Thirty to forty years ago the average crop was one hundred and fifty bushels an acre. Then this upland got what we called potato-sick, and fifty bushels an acre was an average. Since rotation has been practised this neighborhood has averaged one hundred bushels an acre. The whole or a large part of the county is devoted more or less to potato-growing. Good farms with good buildings, within four to six miles of good towns, sell at from twenty dollars to thirty dollars an acre. F. B. G.

Adamsville, Washington County, N. Y.

From Arkansas.—The long-continued drought of last year discouraged many, so some left the state, and went to Texas; but the drought there, or the wind, has blown some of them back. I think the good season for crops and the copious rains have refreshed and revived the spirits of the most depressed. Thousands of tons of hay, consisting of alfalfa, clover, timothy, millet and sorghum, have been stored away. The large yield of cotton is opening rapidly, and all the cotton-pickers are being pressed into service. There has been much corn cut and fodder pulled in the old way. Corn will make from twenty to thirty bushels to the acre with no fertilizer and little work. The peach-trees have been relieved of their wonderful weight of large, fine-flavored fruit. The apple-trees are still patiently bearing their loads of beautiful, ruby-colored fruit and green leaves, which form a pleasant contrast to the eye of the rustic. The outside woods are still covered with thick, green grass, which can scarcely be called a carpet when it is as high as a horse. New grass has come up where there never was any before. The grass is going to seed, and will be as good as ever next year, but it couldn't be any better than it is now. It is a pleasant sight to the farmer to see his cattle coming in from the range fat and sleek. There is an abundance of timber here, especially oak and hickory, which give so much mast for hogs. Two new railroads are being run through this part of the state, and will soon furnish us means to transport our products to people less fortunate than ourselves. Land is cheap, and there are many good homes for young men willing to work.

King Mills, Sharp County, Ark. L. E. S.

Gardening

By T. GREINER

FIGHTING THE SAN JOSE.—The San Jose scale is yet in evidence in my apple orchard. A year ago last April I gave all my apple and pear trees a spraying with crude petroleum. This apparently has given to this enemy a set-back. The Bartlett-pear trees, being small, which were thoroughly covered with the oily spray, from the tip of the twigs down to the ground, show hardly more than a trace of scale, and but few of the telltale carmine spots on the fruit. The apple-trees, being much larger, and which possibly were not covered so completely in all their parts, show the red spots everywhere, and much more freely in every part of the orchard than were found in spots here and there a year or two ago. Treatment must be repeated, and this with more thoroughness than before. Possibly I may resort to heroic measures—as, for instance, the removal of most of the top by cutting every limb back—before applying another coat of petroleum.

TRANSPLANTING ASPARAGUS.—Mrs. J. H., of Springfield, Mo., has grown a lot of asparagus-plants from seed sown last spring. The question she wants answered is, "When should the plants be taken up and set in permanent beds?" I have a lot of plants of about five varieties started from seed rather late this year. With ground kept moist right along by the continuous rains, the seed germinated promptly, and the plants are growing finely. The plants should first of all be given plenty of room in the seed-rows, say three inches from plant to plant, in order to give them every chance to grow large by this fall or next spring. With plants thus grown it is a pleasure to start an asparagus-patch, and this can be done in the fall or early spring with equal chances of success. Have the land deeply plowed, liberally manured and thoroughly worked, then set the plants rather deep (six or eight inches) and not closer than two feet from plant to plant in the row, and the rows not less than four or five feet apart.

THE GOOSEBERRIES.—My gooseberries of all kinds bore again a pretty good crop, not so many berries in number as in former seasons, but enough, and almost every berry of more than ordinary size. The bushes have again been almost entirely free from mildew, which seriously injures the foliage of foreign gooseberries in most localities of the United States. I saw no necessity of spraying my plants at all, and as cool and cloudy weather was the rule rather than the exception, there was no loss from sun-scald. I have usually sprayed the plants at least once with the liver-of-sulphur solution, in order to insure their protection from mildew, and dusted them once or twice with white hellebore to stop the work of the currant-worm. On the grounds of the New York Experiment Station I found plenty of mildew on foreign gooseberries. Here I have seldom seen more than traces of it without being able to discover the reason for the comparative exemption. Chautauqua and Columbus are so near alike that I can't find the least difference in fruit or leaf. The berries were larger than ever, simply immense, and equal in size to those of Industry and others of the largest English sorts. In flavor I consider our own American sorts, especially Downing, far superior to Columbus and most other large foreign sorts, possibly some of the newer yellows excepted. The American sorts are hardy, and free from mildew, besides, but the berries are too small for a business berry. In Geneva I found Professor Beach working on the problem of breeding Downing and others up in size, apparently with some success. At least, he has a number of Downing seedlings with larger berries than the parent. The improvement will probably be slow, however.

Fruit-Growing

By S. B. GREEN

DOWNY MILDEW.—C. A., Tampico, Ill. The specimens of grape-vine which you inclose are, I think, infested with downy mildew, or Peronospora. They have been more liable to this disease this year than usual, on account of our having so much cloudy weather; and then, from the fact that they have made such a rapid growth, they are especially soft and succulent, and liable to the attacks of disease. The best remedy for this disease is spraying with Bordeaux mixture. You will very likely find it necessary to spray with this material for the prevention of black rot when the vines bear, and the two diseases may be conquered with the same remedy. Treatment for this should begin as soon as the leaves unfold, and be repeated at intervals of about two weeks during the summer.

BLACK-KNOT.—E. E. C., Rockville, Ind. Black-knot on damson and other plum trees is the same as the black-knot found on choke-cherries and the bird-cherry. It is caused by a fungous disease, which grows into the wood, and setting up an irritation, causes the peculiar growth which we know as black-knot. The botanical name of the plant which causes this is Plowrightia morbosa. The best treatment is to cut off and burn the infested portions, and if this is thoroughly practised each year the trees may be kept reasonably free from the trouble. In the case of rot on big branches or trunks, where the whole part cannot be removed, the rot should be cut out and the wounds painted with thick Bordeaux mixture made of five pounds of lime, five pounds of sulphate of copper and twenty gallons of water. This strength of Bordeaux mixture is too thick for ordinary purposes, but is all right for painting on such wounds.

PLANT-LICE—WOOLLY SCALE—GOOSEBERRY MILDEW.—W. S. H., Seattle, Wash. The plum-leaves seem to be infested with lice, and so far as I can determine from the dry specimens sent, the best remedy in such a case is to commence spraying the trees early in the spring with whale-oil soap or strong tobacco-water. If it is not begun early the leaves will curl up, so that it will be of very little use, as the insects will be so thoroughly protected that they cannot be reached. Where trees are badly infested with this pest I have found that covering with a tent, then smudging with tobacco-smoke, to be the most satisfactory remedy.——One of the gooseberry branches which you sent on is badly infested with the woolly scale; I think that probably the best treatment for this is to cut back the bushes severely, and burn the parts removed, and then treat the plant with kerosene during bright, dry days in the latter part of winter or early in the spring, before growth starts. These scales are so thoroughly protected by their woolly covering that they are with difficulty reached with ordinary spraying-materials.——The other leaves of the gooseberry, which were covered with a white mold, were infested with what is known as gooseberry mildew; this is very injurious in some seasons, and some plants are so subject to it that they may be totally destroyed. It may be kept entirely in check by spraying the foliage at intervals of two or three weeks, according to the weather and the prevalence of the disease, with a solution of liver of sulphur (potassium sulphide) at the rate of one half ounce to one gallon of water. This is easily handled, and will not in any way injure the foliage or fruit.

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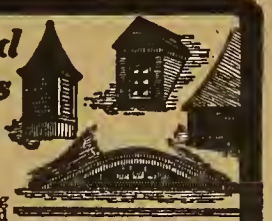

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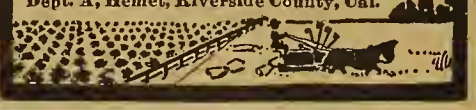

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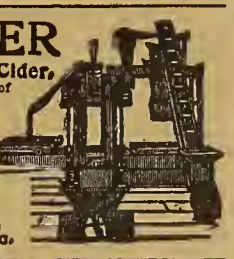

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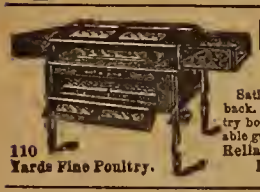

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FALL TREATMENT OF HORSES

After the hard, wearing work of summer and early autumn farm-teams can often be allowed a run in pasture for rest and recuperation, free from the insect-pests so annoying earlier in the season. Such a vacation is most beneficial to tired and jaded horse-flesh if allowed under proper limitations. It too often happens, however, that such late-fall pasturing of work or driving animals is a damage rather than a benefit. A horse that has been well fed with concentrated feeds, carefully groomed and comfortably stabled throughout the summer is too much of a hothouse plant to be turned to pasture late in the fall and left to shift for himself until the fields are locked with snow and ice. Thousands of horses suffer much misery by such treatment, and in consequence go into winter stabling wasted in flesh and with constitutions weakened, if not diseased, instead of improved, as hoped by their owners.

The theory of giving the horse a course of the Doctor Green treatment is all right, but the neglect of the animals during frosty nights and cold storms is what destroys the good effects. A horse that is moving all day in cropping a perhaps scanty living, and then is forced to sleep on the damp, chilly ground, or the worse alternative of running to warm his blood throughout the night, will not only fail to improve his condition, but will grow short in weight and long in coat, besides standing a very good chance of contracting lung or skin diseases, which may remain with him throughout the winter.

The same mistaken idea often prevails in regard to the "toughening" of colts. We often hear it said that colts after the first year require no stabling or shelter while they can paw and dig to the grass beneath the snow. These advocates of hardening colts by such treatment will point to the shaggy coats, which provident Nature kindly provides, and tell you that such hair is a sufficient protection. It nevertheless takes energy and vitality to grow a ten or fifteen pound fleece of hair. It would often be shown that the colt left to shift for himself until "snow flies" has shrunk at least one hundred pounds if a scale test were made.

A well-conditioned horse or colt going into his winter quarters can easily be made to continue to thrive without interruption, but the unthrifty, blood-chilled one will eat his rations at a loss for months to come. B. F. W. THORPE.

POLLED CATTLE

Aside from mention of the numerous and varied merits the breeds of hornless cattle may possess, their advocates are abundantly able to present telling arguments as to why their favorites should be given equal, if not greater, consideration than others.

In olden times, when cattle ran wild in forest and wilderness, constantly exposed to assailment by savage beasts as untamed as themselves, the conditions made weapons for their defense a necessity. Nature wisely provided these in the form of horns, of such length, strength, sharpness, position and poise as to render the most formidable of their assailants impotent before the fierce charges and deadly thrusts possession of such death-dealing combinations of bayonet, saber, dagger and harpoon made possible. Every moment subject to attack and dangers innumerable, no other beasts were better equipped to repel with murderous measure even the most ferocious enemies.

In the onward march of civilization, however, cattle have become domesticated animals, kept strictly for men's uses, in pastures, paddocks, sheds or stalls, where each foot of space occupied has a value; where peaceful, quiet and harmonious herding mean enhanced well-being to the animals themselves and profit to their civilized owners. In the economy of cattle husbandry protection from wild beasts no longer requires consideration, and weapons of defense and attack should rightly be no more requisite for a well-bred bovine than a six-shooter for a Sister of Mercy. In our time cattle may, in a few rare instances, be kept for pleasure alone, but ninety-nine out of every hundred of those who rear them do so in hope of profit.

Few will seriously deny that horns on the head of any animal of the cattle kind past a year old are simply instruments for inflicting needless pain, great injury, and perhaps death, on other brute kind and mankind at any hour of the day or night; not for reason, not for cause, not for provocation, but to gratify the passing whim, the fancied displeasure or the desire for display of their possessor's strength—perhaps in play, perhaps in passion—and the disposition so big in all animal creation to dominate, if not to domineer.

It is estimated by those who have paid most attention to such statistics that not less than two hundred persons in the United States each year are killed or seriously injured by cattle's horns, and that by the same means a hundred thousand cattle, horses and colts and innumerable sheep and swine are annually destroyed; that two thirds or three fourths of all the tremendous losses by abortion, especially among cows, and in large degree other stock, if carefully investigated, could, directly or indirectly, be traced to the presence of horns; further, that in railroad transportation of horned cattle matured for the shambles, and hence when at their very maximum of value, one or more animals in nearly every car-load are horn gouged or bruised in such a way that, if then discovered, there is a reduction in the price made by the buyer, and if not noticeable until showing itself in bruised and blood-clotted spots on the dressed carcass, entails a loss on the butcher or packer. In connection with these minor injuries must, of course, be considered the many animals lost outright in shipment, by being hooked down or prevented by their own and others' horns from regaining their feet after lying or being thrown down, and so are trampled, gored or crushed to death, to bring then only the trifle offered for them by the grease-factories.

He is indeed a clever expert who can appraise the loss in shed-room, feed and flesh on the large numbers of the weaker, that by the few—sometimes one or two—stronger in every herd in winter quarters are kept in such a state of terror, in motion, and separated much of the time from shelter, food and water. Who has not seen the vicious old stripper that kept a score of her betters moving, out of a shed or away from a feed-rack or watering-place, accommodations which, apart from the horns of this daughter of the devil, were ample for the well-being of all? Who can measure the diminished secretion of milk in every dairy herd where the cows with the biggest or sharpest horns make life a burden and death a restful consummation for their more timid and weaker sisters? Who can gage the additional cost and area of shelter, and the increased feed requisite to house and keep profitably and comfortable the cattle on the farms and in the herds, where they gouge and gore and rip and ram each the one next weaker, as compared with the cost of caring for the same number unarmed, dwelling contentedly in compact quarters, such as their size, number and comfort, rather than strength and viciousness, demand?—From the September quarterly report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, by Secretary F. D. Coburn.

The American Wringer Co.'s HORSE-SHOE BRAND **ROYAL WRINGER** WARRANTED 5 YEARS Are the best Wringers made. The rolls are of the finest quality Para Rubber, which last long, wring dry and save the clothes and buttons. They have the Patent Guide Board which spreads the clothes and to each Wringer is attached the Horse-Shoe Warranty Card.

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Live Stock and Dairy

PINK-EYE

PINK-EYE is one of the common diseases about which the experiment station at Stillwater, Okla., receives a great many inquiries. Some regard this as a distinct disease, but such is not the case, as it is only one of the many forms that influenza may assume. Influenza is regarded as a contagious and infectious fever that usually exists as an epidemic. Pink-eye being a mild form of influenza must also be regarded as a disease that is liable to attack all horses and mules with which it is brought in contact.

As the name indicates, pink-eye is a form of influenza where the eyes are swollen, and their membranes have a red or pinkish color. Other very noticeable symptoms are that the animal may appear stiff and sore, this condition usually being accompanied by high fever. Frequently there is a certain amount of swelling of the legs and under surface of the belly.

Local remedies are of very little value in treating this disease, as they have no effect on the system. The high fever may be controlled by using aconite in twenty-drop doses three times daily, or by using quinine in dram doses. Small doses of salts and potassium nitrate should be given from the beginning of the disease, to keep the bowels and kidneys in perfect order.—Oklahoma Experiment Station Bulletin.

THE DAIRY SCHOOL AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Every winter, from January to April, the Dairy Department at Cornell University throws its doors open to the young men of the state who are interested in the manufacture of dairy products. The tuition is free, and only a nominal sum is charged for laboratory fees.

Instruction is given in the following subjects by lectures and practical work: Bacteriology and chemistry as applied to milk; dairy bookkeeping; butter-making; cheese-making; animal industry, and other topics closely related to the subject, as milk-testing, scoring, etc.

The young men who attend the school are mostly from the farm, yet a few city lads are found in the course.

The instruction staff consists of Professor Wing; Messrs. Hall, cheese-maker; Griffith, butter-maker; Hunziker, bacteriologist; Troy, chemist, and Ford, assistant.

The Dairy Building is the home of the school, and contains a general office, a lecture-room, bacteriological laboratory, reading-room, cheese-curing rooms, chemists' laboratory, laboratory for testing milk, all of which are on the second floor. The first floor contains the butter-room, refrigerator, cheese-room and lavatories, while in the basement is the steam boiler and engine, that furnish the heat and power to run the separators and churns.

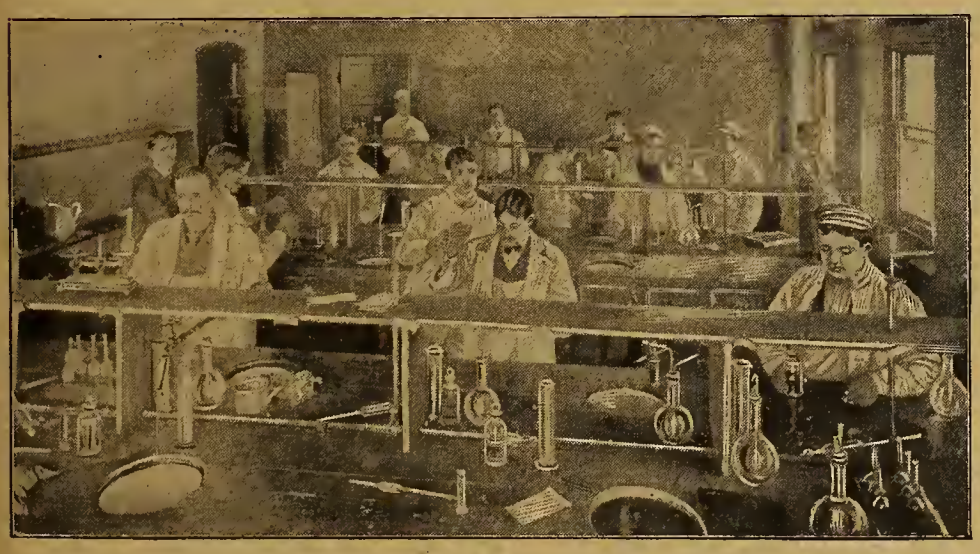
In making butter and cheese the scientific principles regulating the growth and destruction of bacteria in the milk and cream are thoroughly carried out. In this way the flavor of butter and cheese, and at the same time other qualities due to bacteria, are secured.

The principal things tested for in the milk are the per cent of fat, the per cent of solids not fat, and the per cent of lactic acid in the milk or its sourness. The first test is made with the Babcock apparatus, the second is made with the hydrometer, and the third by treating with a standard solution made from specially prepared alkaline tablets.

With the careful methods of testing, the butter and cheese produced at this school are of the very finest quality and command the highest prices.

HOW THE TESTS ARE MADE

Babcock Test for Fat.—A pipette of milk containing 17.6 cubic centimeters is put into a long-neck bottle with scale marks on it, and upon this is gently turned 17.5 cubic centimeters of sulphuric acid (1.82 specific gravity). The two are mixed by shaking with a whirling motion, and placed in a rotating-machine and revolved for five minutes at the speed of seven hundred to nine hundred turns a minute.



LABORATORY WHERE MILK IS TESTED

Hot water is added to the neck of the bottle, which is whirled again for two minutes. It is again filled up high enough to allow the fat which has collected at the top to be easily read, then turned for another minute. The per cent of fat can be read directly from the neck of the bottle.

The state law requires that milk shall contain at least three per cent of fat and nine per cent of solids not fats.

The solids not fats are found by means of the lactometer in the following manner: The sample of milk is thoroughly mixed and tested with the lactometer, then to this reading is added seven tenths of the fat found by the above test, and the sum divided by 3.8. These tests, with the acid test, are very important.

At Cornell one third of the laboratory practice is given to teaching the students to make these tests quickly and accurately, while the rest of the laboratory practice is equally divided between butter and cheese making. The use and care and comparative merits of various separators are thoroughly treated of. The ripening of the cream, the conditions required for churning, the working, salting and packing of butter are all practically taught.

In cheese-making the temperature and acidity of the milk, the amount of fat, the rennet, and other conditions which are likely to influence the resulting product, are studied so as to produce uniformly good results under varying conditions. The pressing of cheese and the curing of the same with the conditions that influence it are also considered.

The graduates of the Dairy School receive good positions as foremen of dairies throughout the state, while many run creameries of their own. The improvements in dairy methods in the state are easily traceable to the work done at this school.

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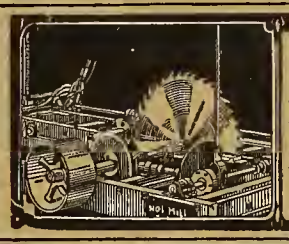

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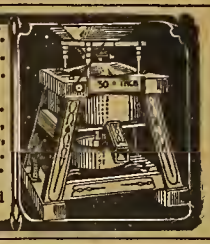

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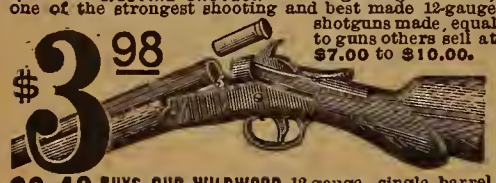

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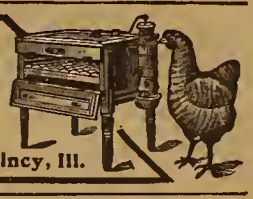

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Poultry-Raising

By P. H. JACOBS

BUYING BIRDS FOR BREEDING

PURE-BRED fowls are frequently bought in the fall, and care should be used to secure healthy birds for adding to the flock, as it is difficult to detect disease without a close examination, which is something seldom done by those who procure fowls from elsewhere. Nor should the vigilance be confined to the individual birds; the entire flocks of which the birds are members should be carefully looked after, as disease in the flock of some neighbor may be carried elsewhere by apparently healthy birds taken from such flock. Roup is often present in an incipient stage in a flock, and it makes its appearance under the first favorable circumstance. It is advised that farmers should never buy a hen from another flock without careful inspection, if it can be avoided.

COLOR OF THE SHELLS

It is a mistake to keep more fowls than can be accommodated, simply to wait for the warm weather of spring for them to begin laying. Cull out all the unprofitable members of the flock. Many who buy eggs give the preference to the color of shells. In some cities eggs with dark shells are preferred, while in others the preference is for the white eggs. There is also a prejudice on the part of some against pale yolks. Experiments show that the color of the shell has no influence whatever on the quality of the eggs, and that the color of the yolk depends upon the food. Yellow corn, carrots and clover will give color to the yolk of the egg, but a yellow yolk is not richer than a pale one. The fact that a perfect chick can be hatched from a pale-yolk egg as well as from a yellow-yolk egg is evidence that the contents of both are alike.

DIPHTHERIC ROUP IN TURKEYS

There is a disease of poultry characterized by an affection of the mucous membranes of the head of a diphtheric nature, accompanied by a drowsy, dull appearance, an offensive discharge from the eyes and nostrils, with a little froth from the mouth. Experiments and examinations of the latter show a fibrous exudate on a limited surface of the mucous membrane of the mouth, and when detached leaves a raw, bleeding surface; swellings also appear about the eyes and nostrils, from which a mucopurulent discharge of a dirty-yellow color will escape when they are opened, and a croupous membrane will be found lining these abscesses. The disease in many cases assumes a subacute or chronic form, and is amenable to treatment, which consists in opening the swellings, cleaning out the matter and the membrane found inside, and dressing the sores, also the eyes, mouth and nostrils with a solution of carbolic acid—from one to two per cent. The first dressing should be made with a ten-per-cent solution. Prevention in all diseases is much more satisfactory than cure, and that largely depends on thorough cleanliness, with the prompt isolation or destruction of all infected birds. The United States Department of Agriculture has issued a large bulletin on the disease.

A GROUP OF DUCKLINGS

UTILITY PREFERRED

Peculiarities in breeding may greatly tend to ornament some breeds, but for general utility there are inflictions upon some of our domestic fowls that should be discarded. The crest on the French breeds does much to prevent their introduction, as the Polish answers all the purposes of an ornamental-crested bird, while the French breeds are really useful. Then there are the feathers on the legs of the Brahmas, Langshans and Cochins, which should be bred away, as they seriously interfere with the birds when on wet soils. The fifth toe on the Dorking and Houdan are unnecessary, and we may also mention the tall combs on many of the breeds. No doubt it may be contended that they are "marks" or "points" that indicate the purity of the breeds, but there is no advantage in encouraging such points to the detriment of the desired characteristics of the birds. If the feathers are desired, let them be light, not heavy; and if the birds must be crested, then breed for low, small crests. The true aim and object in introducing a breed should be its value either as an egg-producer or for the table, and everything else should be subservient thereto. Quality should never be secondary to points of color, legs, head or shape.

FORAGING OVER STUBBLE-FIELDS

It is a great mistake to let any stock but poultry glean after the grain has been gathered. The poaching of the soil and injury to young clover caused by large stock running over the fields more than offsets the good the stock can gain by gathering the grain-heads. There are very few wasted heads in modern grain-harvesting, except such as are bent down and cut off with too little straw to be gathered in the bundle. If allowed a free range the fowls will gather most of the grain, and they will pay best for it, as grain so gathered sets the hens to laying.

INSURANCE AND INCUBATORS.—H. L. R., Nashua, N. H., asks "what to do in the case of the insurance companies refusing to allow him to use an incubator in his house or about it." There is no remedy but to satisfy the companies in some manner—by preparing a place outside, or by using precautions, as they may direct.

LACK OF VARIETY.—M. S. B., Sutherlin, Va., has "a lot of pullets that are droopy, crops being hard, and they refuse to eat. He has fed corn-meal dough, and given copperas, etc., as tonics." The difficulty is probably due to lack of variety of food. Cease feeding the dough and giving tonics. Give meat, cooked potatoes, wheat, or anything that they will eat, providing plenty of grit also.

WARTS ON THE HEADS.—H. W. H., Brookhaven, Miss., asks for "a remedy for warts on the heads of chicks." This difficulty is peculiar to the South, and is due to minute parasites. An excellent remedy is one tablespoonful each of cedar-oil, crude petroleum and linseed-oil, to which add twenty drops of carbolic acid. Anoint the heads and faces once a day, using a few drops on each chick.

PUMPKINS AND POTATOES.—E. H., Vermont, Ill., desires to know "if cooked pumpkins and potatoes have a food value for poultry, and if the raw potatoes will answer; also if such foods will promote laying." Such foods contain a large proportion of water, and the fowls would be compelled to consume very large quantities. They are deficient in some respects, but are excellent when fed with more concentrated foods. They are preferred in a cooked condition.

A TEST EXPERIMENT

Peculiar Power Possessed by a New Medicine

Of new discoveries there is no end, but one of the most recent, most remarkable, and one which will prove invaluable to thousands of people, is a discovery which it is believed will take the place of all other remedies for the cure of those common and obstinate diseases, dyspepsia and stomach troubles. This discovery is not a loudly advertised, secret patent medicine, but is a scientific combination of wholesome, perfectly harmless vegetable essences, fruit salts, pure pepsin and bismuth.

These remedies are combined in lozenge form, pleasant to take, and will preserve their good qualities indefinitely, whereas all liquid medicines rapidly lose whatever good qualities they may have had as soon as uncorked and exposed to the air.

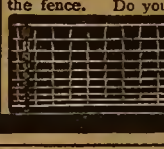
This preparation is called Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, and it is claimed that one of these tablets or lozenges will digest from 300 to 3,000 times its own weight of meat, eggs and other wholesome food. And this claim has been proven by actual experiments in the following manner: A hard-boiled egg cut into small pieces was placed in a bottle containing warm water heated to ninety-eight degrees (or blood-heat), one of these Tablets was then placed in the bottle, and the proper temperature maintained for three hours and a half, at the end of which time *the egg was as completely digested as it would have been in a healthy stomach.* This experiment was undertaken to demonstrate that what it would do in the bottle it *would also do in the stomach,* hence its unquestionable value in the cure of dyspepsia and weak digestion. Very few people are free from some form of indigestion, but scarcely two will have the same symptoms. Some will suffer most from distress after eating, bloating from gas in the stomach and bowels, others have acid dyspepsia or heartburn, others palpitation or headaches, sleeplessness, pains in chest or under shoulder-blades, extreme nervousness, as in nervous dyspepsia, but they all have *same cause*—failure to *properly digest* what is eaten. The stomach *must have* rest and assistance, and Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets give it *both,* by digesting the food for it, and in a short time it is restored to its normal action and vigor. At same time the Tablets are so harmless that a child can take them with benefit. This new preparation has already made many astonishing cures, as, for instance, the following:

After using only one package of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets I have received such great and unexpected benefit that I wish to express my sincere gratitude. In fact, it has been six months since I took the package, and I have not had one particle of distress or difficulty since. And all this in the face of the fact that the best doctors I consulted told me my case was Chronic Dyspepsia and absolutely incurable, as I *had suffered twenty-five years.* I distributed half a dozen packages among my friends here who are very anxious to try this remedy.

MRS. SARAH A. SKEELS,
Lynnville, Jaspar Co., Mo.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are sold by druggists everywhere at 50 cents for full-sized packages.

SEVERAL PROFITS.
Do you want to pay them when you buy fence? If so, why so? You don't need to do it, and you don't do it when you buy
ADVANCE FENCE.
It is sold direct from factory to consumer. You know the fence. Do you know anything better? Does anybody know anything better for the purpose? Then think what you save. Ask us to show you what it costs farmers.



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116P Street, Peoria, Ill.

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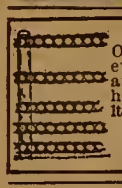
Can be made at the actual cost of wire. Over 100 Styles, and 50 to 70 rods per day. Horse-high, Bull-strong, Pig and Chicken-tight.
THE DUPLEX MACHINE makes it. The Machine is Automatic, simple in construction, runs easy, works rapidly. **Sent on Trial.** Plain, barb wire and Gates at wholesale prices. Catalog free.
KITSELMAN BROTHERS, D 24 Muncie, Indiana.

ORNAMENTAL LAWN FENCE

Save 20 to 25 per cent. by buying direct from manufacturer. MADE OF STEEL.
CHEAP AS WOOD
Special Prices to Churches, Cemeteries and Large Parks. 32 page **Catalog free.**
COILED SPRING FENCE CO. Box 414, Winchester, Ind.

THE FENCE THAT LASTS



Our Truss and Cable wire fence (six wires in every strand) costs less and lasts longer than any other. Built same as board fence, any height desired, 3, 4, 5 or 6 strands. Investigate it. *Sample free.* Sold direct at wholesale prices. AGENTS WANTED.
THE TRUSS & CABLE FENCE CO. 313 Federal Bldg., Youngstown, Ohio.

I Can Sell Your Farm no matter where it is. Send description, state price and learn how. Est. '96. Highest references. Offices in 14 cities.
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CURES BLINDNESS AT HOME

Henry C. Laub had Cataract 30 yrs. but Dr. Coffee Restored Sight.

HENRY C. LAUB.

Henry C. Laub is a capitalist of Denison, Iowa, and **tried everything** to cure cataract on his right eye, without relief. After suffering 30 years he says, "I obtained a month's treatment of Dr. W. O. Coffee **by mail.** Before the supply was used up, the **cataract was removed** and I can now see to read with that eye." Hope for everyone, **no matter how bad the case.** Dr. W. O. Coffee's mild medicines **cure at home**—Cataracts, Sore Eyes, Granulated Lids, Failing Sight—all eye troubles, **without operations.** A God-send because the price is within reach of all.

80-Page Illustrated Eye Book FREE.

Dr. Coffee's 80-page eye book containing colored photographs of cured cases is **worth $10.** An eye history. Tells about every kind of eye disease. Contains simple tests so you can tell your own trouble. **It is FREE.** Write for yourself or a suffering friend.

DR. W. O. COFFEE, 819 Good Block, Des Moines, Ia.

"SUN"

Safe as a candle, powerful as 100 candles.

Conforms to all insurance underwriters' rules.

Write for catalogue.

The "Sun" Outshines Them All.

Incandescent Gasoline Lamp.

Agents make $25 to $75 per week.

Branch Supply Depots in all larger cities.

Sun Vapor Light Co.

Box 606, Canton, Ohio

Licensee of the ground patents for vapor lights.

SOLD! UNDER A Positive Guarantee

to wash as clean as can be done on the **washboard,** even to the wristbands and collar of the dirtiest shirt, and with much more ease. This applies to **Terriff's Perfect Washer,** which will be sent on trial at wholesale price. If not satisfactory, money will be refunded. **AGENTS WANTED.** For exclusive territory, terms and prices, write

PORTLAND MFG. CO., Box 27, Portland, Mich.

Vapo-Cresolene

CURES WHILE YOU SLEEP

Whooping Cough, Croup, Bronchitis, Coughs, Grip, Hay Fever, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever

Don't fail to use CRESOLENE for the distressing and often fatal affections for which it is recommended. For more than twenty years we have had the most conclusive assurances that there is nothing better. Ask your physician about it.

An interesting descriptive booklet is sent free, which gives the highest testimonials as to its value. All Druggists.

VAPO-CRESOLENE CO., 180 Fulton Street, New York.

RAG CARPETS

and Rugs—when the rags are colored with "PERFECTION" Dyes—possess rich, even and beautiful shades that are the FASTEST made against light, air, soap and acids. "PERFECTION" Dyes are clean, safe, easy to use and color DOUBLE THE QUANTITY of old kinds. To enable you to try them we will send six packages, any colors, for 40 cts., three for 25 cts., or one for 10 cts. Catalogue of 70 popular colors with Amateur Dyer's Guide and shade cards sent FREE. Address:—

W. CUSHING & CO., Dept. W, Foxcroft, Me.

The Grange

By MRS. MARY E. LEE

THE OBSERVATORY

If you don't like farming, stop growling. Get into a business you do like, and make it hum.

Help make your state grange a powerful deliberative body, by sending to it your best members.

Time drags only with the indolent and incompetent. To the worker it flies on the wings of the wind.

Let every one who possibly can, attend the National Grange at Lansing. It promises to equal the record-breaking Maine meeting.

The modern idea of citizenship (we pray it may soon pass away) is the strenuous life in the cause of reform. The reform of self to conform to Nature's laws must evermore demand the most strenuous life.

JUDGE HENRY M. HUGGINS

Nature seems to exist for the excellent. The world is upheld by the veracity of good men; they make the earth wholesome.—Emerson.

The mere presence of a great man and good beget confidence and respect. Men trust him, and delight to honor themselves by associating with him. Does he embrace a doctrine or society, then that doctrine or society is measured by his standing. Out of chaos he brings order. In the turbulent heat of debate, when reason and prudence are lost in the heat of contest, he speaks what to him is truth, and behold! prudence and wisdom prevail. Men say, "He speaks well my thought." Because he saw the right, and championed, men look to him for leadership. They confidently trust in him. Such a man is Judge Henry M. Huggins.

JUDGE HENRY M. HUGGINS

Judge Huggins has practised law many years with honor and distinction. As judge his decisions were so uniformly just that they were rarely reversed. He is a logical thinker, a forceful speaker. Courteous to opponents, he never resorts to cheap subterfuges, but relies for support on the righteousness of his cause.

Judge Huggins is a student, patiently delving while others sleep. Although he has an extensive practice, and maintains an estate of hundreds of acres, he yet finds time for study of the masters. His conversation reflects the philosophical bent of a cultivated mind. His chief recreation is with his beloved Stradivarius.

THE FARMER'S HARD LOT

About the biggest field on the farm, judging by the prominence given it, is the "farmer's hard lot." In fact, so vast and universal is it that fences cannot restrain it. It knows no county, state or national lines. It is coextensive with the world's domain. It is most in evidence during a close political campaign. The hearts of men and women have been wrung, and the fountain of tears overflowed its highest banks, at the picture of the toil-worn farmer and his hapless wife and child. Even farmers themselves have turned from their well-filled bays and bins, their glossy, sleek-coated cattle, their pantries and cellars overflowing with good things to eat, and added their groans to that of the populace. For who will not conjure up injuries and abuses galore if he finds a willing ear? And what ear is so sympathetic as that of the politician seeking votes? Even among farmers who have secured a modest competence there is a feeling that farming is not a lucrative pursuit; that the returns are not at all commensurate with the time, thought and energy expended.

I have discussed the matter with many classes of minds, and have asked for the basis of their opinions. In nearly all cases the substance of the replies is this: "The townsman has a better house, beautiful within with artistic furnishings, and without with shrubs and vines. Poor indeed is the street that is not lined with shade-trees. Good walks surround his home. His house is heated by a furnace or with gas, and hot and cold water are always on tap." To which the reply is, and must be: "The advantages are only apparent. It would be well for you to spend fifteen minutes each day in getting acquainted with yourself. You say you care nothing for looks or show, but only solid, substantial comfort. The latter you profess not to have; the former you emphasize by placing first in your enumeration of the advantages of town life. With patience, skill and careful planning the cottage of the early years may be added to, as the need impels. No matter how shrewd a buyer the wife is, the woman who occasionally goes up to the city has the advantage in tasty and artistic buying of one who does not. The traveled woman, other things being equal, can make one hundred dollars go further in comfort, luxury and artistic effects than can the untraveled woman with two hundred dollars. (Spend a few dollars each year in getting away from home.) As to trees and shrubs and vines, the farmer can have for the digging his choice from hundreds of plants, while the townsman foregoes some pleasure to buy the nurserymen's choice of stock, which is inferior to that on the average farm. The shade-trees of the street may be the farmer's, also, with this difference—they are far more luxuriant, healthy and well proportioned in the country than in the city. Furnace-heat in the country may be obtained for less than in the city, and poor indeed is the farm that cannot get an abundance of water for the house. The occasional beautiful farm home you see was not built in a day. 'Twas the slow accretions of years and the mellowing, maturing influence of time. The truly beautiful farm home comes to the family imbued with a tender love for Nature. Here is a tree, shrub, vine or flower too beautiful to be seen but once. Its environments are noted, and the conditions at the house made as nearly similar as possible, then it is carefully removed to its new home. In its gratitude it sends out a plentitude of new beauty to gladden the eye. As time glides on, other plants are brought to bear it company, and soon the bare, unsightly house is made a bower of beauty and elegance. Men admire its beauty, and in time desire to buy it. Nothing can be made so genuinely lovely as the place planned and executed for the love of the work alone. Ah, my friend, spend the time you now give to fretful, childish repining in planning how to make your little place attractive, and in seeking better methods of doing your work, and you will find heaven right at your door."

FREE TO EVERY ONE

A Priceless Book Sent Free for the Asking

"There be books and books;" some edifying, others entertaining, and still others instructive. The average man is so busily engaged in the labor of money-making that he has little time and less inclination for books which instruct; hence, when he feels out of sorts, either he gives no heed to Nature's warning, or he consults a physician, at an expense which a little knowledge would have enabled him to avoid. There is probably no complaint upon which the public is so little informed as hemorrhoids, or piles. This little book tells all about their nature, cause and cure; it treats of the different forms of blind, bleeding, itching and protruding piles, describes their symptoms, and points the way to a cure so simple and inexpensive that any one can understand and apply. The importance of promptness and thoroughness is vital, for the disease will not cure itself, and Nature alone, unaided, will not accomplish a cure, while the consequences are too painful for detailed description. You are told how piles originate, the reason for their appearance usually being that some of the rules of correct living have been violated, and (what is more to the point) how you may rid yourself of this bane of human existence. All affections of the rectum are treated in simple, plain language, so that all may understand and learn how the cause may be removed. Many people suffer from piles because, after trying the numerous lotions, ointments and salves that are on the market, without relief, they come to the conclusion that a surgical operation is the only thing left to try, and rather than submit to the shock and risk to life of an operation, prefer to suffer on. This little book tells how this may be avoided, and a cure be effected without pain, inconvenience or detention from business. Write your name and address plainly on a postal-card, mail to the Pyramid Drug Co., Marshall, Michigan, and you will receive the book by return mail.

FREE.

This booklet tells how to make money on the farm, and outlines our course of home study in

Modern Agriculture,

Under Prof. Wm. P. Brooks, Ph. D., of the Mass. Agricultural College. Treats of soils, tillage, drainage, fertilizers, crop rotation, stock-feeding, poultry-raising, dairying, etc. Also Horticulture under Prof. Bailey, of Cornell University, and Agricultural Bacteriology under Prof. Conn, of Wesleyan. Full Commercial, Normal and Academic Departments. Tuition nominal. Text-books FREE to our students. *Cata. and particulars free. Write to-day.*

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50 cts. SUPERFLUOUS HAIR

I guarantee that a few drops of my liquid will remove hair instantaneously, effectively, and without the slightest harm, pain, burn or blister. Sent upon receipt of fifty cents, with full instructions. Please mention this paper.

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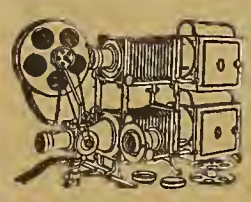

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and other complete Public Exhibition Outfits for $20.95 to $146.25. $5.00 to $100.00 Per Day (without experience) is being made by hundreds. We furnish complete Outfits, Instruction Book, Advertising matter, big posters, tickets, etc. For full particulars address SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, Ill.

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Our prices are one half asked by agents and dealers.

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Paying $60 to $100 or More Per Month

Secured in Offices, Stores, Banks, Railroad Offices, etc., after completing our Home Study Course in Bookkeeping, Telegraphy, Banking and other subjects. Up-to-date methods, thoroughly practical and remarkably inexpensive, fitting young men and women for good paying positions. Any one can learn it in a few weeks. We find positions free of charge. Write to-day for full particulars. Address MICHIGAN BUSINESS INSTITUTE, 212 Institute Building, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

BEST REPEATING SHOT GUN ONLY $15.75

Sportsmen write: "Spencer best gun in the world." No more after present lot sold. Original slide lever gun made of best forged steel, finest figured twist steel barrel. Double extractors. Take down system. Six shots in 3 seconds. Strongest repeater made. Send $5; gun sent C. O. D., balance $10.75 and expressage, examination allowed. F. Bannerman, 579 Broadway, N.Y.

Farmers' Sons Wanted—with knowledge of farm stock and fair education to work in an office; $60 a month with advancement; steady employment; must be honest and reliable. Branch offices of the association are being established in each state. Apply at once, giving full particulars. The Veterinary Science Ass'n, London, Canada.

OUR SALESMEN MAKE $10.00 DAILY

AGENTS WANTED. CATALOGUE FREE. Crayon Portraits 45c. Family Records 5c. Pictures and Frames wholesale, prices the lowest. Frank W. Williams & Co., Chicago, Ill. Dept. A.

Sea-Shells Free for a stamp and names of 3 persons who wear a truss. Sea Shell Co., Peaks Isle, Me.

If afflicted with weak eyes use Thompson's Eye Water

What are brittle lamp chimneys for?

For sale.

MACBETH don't make 'em.

If you'll send your address, I'll send you the Index to Lamps and their Chimneys, to tell you what number to get for your lamp.

MACBETH, Pittsburgh.

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This is the CORNISH PLAN

Our large souvenir catalogue explains our unique method fully—it will be sent free to anybody upon request. With the catalogue we present four embossed pianos in miniature—the most costly advertisement ever offered to the public. Write to-day.

PIANOS $155 AND UP ORGANS $25 AND UP

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LYON & HEALY, 21 East Adams St., Chicago.

World's Largest Music House. "Sells Everything Known in Music"

$5.00

FOR $5.00 we furnish the celebrated COLUMBIA GRAPHOPHONES, other talking machines at $10.00, $12.00 and $15.00.

FOR HOME ENTERTAINMENT our talking machines and records excel all others. FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION PURPOSES to make $5.00 to $20.00 per day giving exhibitions in halls, school houses, etc., we furnish THE MOST COMPLETE OUTFITS including everything required to begin work for only $20.95. FOR FREE CATALOGUE, heretofore unheard of prices and the most liberal offer ever made on all kinds of talking machines, moving picture and other home and public exhibition outfits, cut this ad. out and mail to

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

ONE YEAR'S FREE TRIAL

Kenwood ORGANS $21.75 to $78.50

Shipped on approval anywhere in the U. S. NO MONEY IN ADVANCE. Guaranteed for 25 years. Magnificent exclusive designs, unexcelled action; sweetest tone. Kenwood Majestic Grand, as illustrated, a masterpiece of organ building, $48.75. Thousands in use. Testimonials from every state. Send for our big illustrated Piano and Organ Catalogue FREE The renowned Kenwood Pianos and Organs cost less than half what dealers and agents charge for inferior makes. Cash Buyers' Union, Dept. 07 Chicago.

The "Best" Light

Is a portable 100 candle power light, costing only 2 cts. per week. Makes and burns its own gas. Brighter than electricity or acetylene, and cheaper than kerosene. No Dirt. No Grease. No Odor. Over 100 styles. Lighted instantly with a match. Every lamp warranted. Agents Wanted Everywhere

THE "BEST" LIGHT CO.

212 E. 5th Street, CANTON, OHIO.

FREE We give one beautiful rolled-gold solitaire Puritan rose diamond ring, solid-gold pattern, for selling 20 packages Garfield Pepsin Gum, at 5 cents a package. Finest quality; easy sale. Send name; we mail gum. When sold send money; we mail ring. 7th year. Hundreds of thousands pleased customers. Catalog free showing hundreds premiums. Garfield Gum Co., Box 808, Meadville, Pa.

THE YANKEE FIRE-KINDLER Builds 100 Fires with 3c of Oil. No kindlings. Warranted 3 years. Greatest Seller for Agents ever invented. Sample with terms prepaid, 15c. YANKEE KINDLER CO. BLOCK 95 OLNEY, ILL.

SPECTACLES at wholesale. Send for catalog. Agents wanted. Coulter Optical Co., Chicago, Ill.

$10.65 Sewing-Machine. None better. Catalog free. H. F. Schlueter & Co., 1412 Elm St., Cin'ti, O.

If afflicted with weak eyes, use Thompson's Eye Water

Around the Fireside

THE SUN WILL SHINE TO-MORROW

BY HELEN WHITNEY CLARK

What though our skies be overcast,
And clouds of trouble lower?
Though disappointments, crowding fast,
Beset our every hour?
Though trials throng upon our way,
Shall we succumb to sorrow?
No! Let us gather hope, and say,
"The sun will shine to-morrow!"

Though fickle Fortune hide her face,
Our brave endeavors scorning,
And rob us of some cherished grace
Without a moment's warning,
Let us not tremble at her frown,
Nor care and trouble borrow,
But say, though night is closing down,
"The sun will shine to-morrow!"

Beyond the shadow's threat'ning gloom
His welcome beams are shining;
The clouds that o'er our zenith loom
Have all a silver lining.
The darkest hour precedes the dawn,
And gladness follows sorrow;
The longest night will soon be gone,
The sun will shine to-morrow!

IMMENSE STORAGE DAM

A DISPATCH on August 1st announced that the last coping-stone of the great dam across the Nile at Assouan was laid. This marks the completion of the greatest national work of its kind in existence, and one which will have a wonderful effect on the agricultural resources of Egypt. The completion of this dam and a similar one at Assoubiat will provide water-storage in the Nile Valley which will supply over one billion cubic yards of water every year. By this large tracts of land will produce two crops a year, and vast areas which have been unproductive for centuries will be made fruitful, increasing largely the scope of sugar-cultivation. The dam at Assouan is one of the greatest engineering works in existence. It is one and one fourth miles long, and is pierced by one hundred and eighty openings, twenty-three feet high and seven feet wide, fitted with steel sluice-gates. The contract for the work, which is done by an English firm, and includes the two dams, calls for about twenty-five million dollars. The contract was let in February, 1898, and called for the completion by July, 1903. The progress already made indicates that this will be anticipated by six months. Continuous employment for the past eighteen months has been given to sixteen thousand men, of whom about fourteen thousand were Egyptians. This element of labor has of itself been of great economic value to Egypt, and the enrichment of the country due to the benefits of this increased irrigation will be enormous.

In connection with the vast irrigation system which is being carried out in Egypt, and of which these new dams are only additional features, it is stated that rainfalls are becoming comparatively frequent in that country, instead of a rare event to be remembered for years. This is ascribed to the fact that vegetation has covered already a large area formerly only desert sand, which has had, in a small measure, the same result that tree-planting is supposed to have. The Sphinx and other monuments of the distant past are said to be showing the effects of this increased rainfall in increasing disintegration.—The World's Events.

THE MAN WHO DID IT

The saying that a man seldom obtains that which he merits, or merits that which he obtains, is again illustrated, if a story printed in the New York "Times" is true. One of the St. Lawrence River steamers was entering the most dangerous part of the Lachine Rapids. The forward deck was crowded with passengers, and all eyes were fixed on the picturesque Indian pilot, who could be seen at the wheel through the open pilot-house window. In another window below where the Indian stood there was a plain Hibernian face; but no one had a glance to spare for that.

Immovable at his post in the high pilot-tower the Indian stood, his sinewy, brown hands firmly grasping the spokes of the wheel, while his piercing eyes darted glances now here, now there, over the surface of the river, as if seeking the most advantageous point from which to begin the descent.

The steamer plunged into roaring waves, which shook her from stem to stern. Great black and glistening rocks grinned from the boiling water. Men shuddered as they looked at the rocks and the raging river, but the Indian's mighty arms held the vessel in her course, now spinning the wheel like lightning to escape a rock, now holding it firm with all his vast strength to prevent the vessel from swerving, now leaning far from his station to scan the water with hawklike eyes for hidden dangers. Nothing could appal him or shake his iron nerve, and barely grazing a gleaming rock, he shot the steamer into clear water.

A mighty cheer arose from the ship-load of passengers. Women threw flowers at the feet of the calm savage; then some one tossed him a purse. The stern child of a primeval race was the only one apparently unmoved. His features were fixed in traditional composure, his steady and piercing glance did not regard the cheering crowd.

There was reason for his stolidity. In the room in the pilot-house below where he stood the plain Irishman had been steering the steamer all the time. The iron-nerved savage performed with a dummy wheel on top of the tower, so the tourists could get their full money's worth of thrill. And while the man who did not steer was receiving their swelling gratitude, the man who did mopped his face, and grinned in a cynical sort of way.

HABITS OF THE INDIAN

"Few white men know how to trade with an Indian," remarked C. E. Ward, of this city, who has made a study of Indians for ten years past. "I once met an Indian with a magnificent mountain-lion skin. He was willing to part with the ornament, but his price was too high. I offered him twelve dollars and fifty cents, but he indignantly refused. Later, on the same day, after I had learned how to trade with an Indian, I bought the skin for one dollar and fifty cents."

The secret of trading with the Indian, according to Mr. Ward, is to appear indifferent. The most successful trader is the one who goes with a supply of the same articles he is most desirous of buying. The Indian sees that the stranger has had experience, and negotiations are carried on upon a strictly business basis. An Indian refused ten dollars for a bow and arrow. It was bought for one dollar by a man who carried several bows and arrows in his hand. This wily individual leased the supply from a store in order to impress his copper-colored friend, and he succeeded.

"The Indian," said Mr. Ward, in speaking of traits of character he has observed in his red friends, "is one of the most faithful followers in the world if he has confidence in you. If he takes a liking to you there is nothing you can ask he will not do. If he dislikes you, the less you have to do with that Indian the better. The Indian is a very-much-abused fellow, and he has never been treated as he deserved to be by the white man. His vices are largely the fault of his white neighbors, and one of the greatest dangers that threatens the Indian race is the traveling shows. The government reports declare that the Indians who went to Europe with Wild West aggregations were a lasting menace to their people when they returned home. They had contracted all the vices and none of the virtues of the white men.

"The nature of the Indian cannot be learned from books. It must be studied by actual contact. So far as I have observed, all the Indians are Catholics. They graft their own ideas onto that of the Roman Catholic religion, and it is indeed a peculiar mixture. You can't eradicate the Indian nature by any education, and it is a mistake to send Indians away to school. They should be educated at home among their own people, and their progress ought to be gradual, otherwise the whole race will soon disappear. Our government has been in too great a hurry. Let the Indian develop along lines congenial to his nature, and something may come out of all the expense and time devoted to the solution of the Indian problem. My idea is that the Indian is all right, but his ways are not our ways. Let us give him a chance and give him time to work out his salvation. A Carlisle Indian gets the swelled head, and one such Indian may spoil an entire village. He is overeducated, but in the end he is worse off than at the beginning.

"The customs of the various tribes is a never-ceasing topic of interest. After a white man has lived for a time among the Indians he is gradually taken into their confidence and shown many curious performances, all of which have a meaning to the scientist. One summer, down among the Apaches, I was invited by the chiefs to be present at their great medicine-dance. This ceremony has from time immemorial been performed on the banks of a stream that flows into Stinking Lake, twenty-five miles from Dulce, N. M. Two large brush arbors are built, one on each bank of the stream. The women take their places in one arbor, and the men in the other. The ceremony lasts two days. It commences at sunrise, when the men and women are seen lying on the ground with their feet in the water. They lie perfectly still, the water moving past, and, according to their belief, carrying their sins of the last year down to the lake. On the morning of the second day we were warned to hold our horses, and had hardly secured them tightly when in an instant at a signal the two lines of men and women arose to a standing position and began flapping their blankets in the air. The noise was almost deafening. The flapping was continued while the Indians stood with their toes in the water. They were shaking the evil spirits into the stream, and causing them to be carried down to the lake and drowned. The ceremony is somewhat in the nature of an atonement of the Jews. After the religious part of the business is over all join in dancing and gambling, and a season of feasting and enjoyment follows. These Indians are Catholics, but no influence can prevent them from continuing their ancient practices."

Mr. Ward witnessed the barbarous practice of pulling a rooster out of the sand and tearing the rooster to pieces. This ceremony takes place every September at Taos, and is attended by great crowds from long distances in the mountains. The rooster is buried in a sand-heap, his head protruding. The game consists of riding past at the greatest speed and snatching the helpless fowl out of the sand-pile by seizing its head. The Indians ride in opposite directions, so as to reach the spot at the same moment; each man grabs at the head, and if one of them succeeds in capturing the rooster he is set upon by the others. A violent conflict ensues, and when the dust has cleared away the pieces of the rooster are scattered for a quarter of a mile along the race-track. The delight and excitement of the spectators appear to be almost beyond control. The air is rent by shouts and cries of the friends of the contestants, and days pass before the ordinary condition of affairs is restored.—The Denver News.

The Housewife

WHEN IDA PUTS HER ARMOR ON

When Ida puts her armor on,
And draws her trusty blade,
The turnips in the bin turn pale,
The apples are afraid,
The quiet kitchen city wakes,
And consternation feels,
And quick the tocsin pealeth forth
In long potato-peels.

When Ida puts her armor on,
The pots and pans succumb,
A wooden spoon her drumstick is,
A mixing-pan her drum;
She charges on the kitchen folk
With silver, tin and steel;
She beats the eggs, she whips the cream,
The victory is a meal.

When Ida puts her armor on,
Her breastplate is of blue
(Checked gingham, ruffled top and sides),
Her gauntlets gingham, too;
And thus protected from assault
Of batter, stain and flour,
She wars with vegetable foes,
And conquers in an hour.

When Ida puts her armor on,
She is so fair to see,
Her battle with the kitchen folk
Is reproduced in me;
So sweet she is, armed cap-a-pie,
So good her kitchen art,
I hardly know which loves her best,
My palate or my heart.

—National Magazine.

FANCY COLLAR

As all sorts of fancy collars are worn, we present to our readers one of great beauty that is easily made. We give two styles of wheels for the trimming. The material of the collar can be either white silk bengaline or white lace net.

The wheels upon the collar are made of feather-edged braid —see No. 1—joined in a circle with heavy white crochet-silk, the stitches carried over from one side to the other. The best way to make them is to make a circle on thin cardboard, then baste the braid on it to make a perfect circle. Then work the bars, and the spider-web in the center, and tie in the second circle as illustrated.

No. 1

No. 2 shows the manner of tying the braid. This can be done after basting on the card, as it will then be the wrong side of the work.

No. 3 illustrates a sailor-collar, which is formed of wheels like No. 4—hair-pin work joined in a circle, with a simple crocheted edge. These wheels should be made of silk thread if used upon silk coats or upon a silk waist.

Hair-pin work, though, made of No. 70 thread is very pretty to use upon the fine hand-made handkerchiefs many are making for Christmas. First hemstitch or roll-hem the middle square, sew the hair-pin work neatly around this, then with a very fine crochet-needle and fine thread crochet a chain edge, to which sew the lace or footing; or a prettier way would be to sew a doubled piece of the goods on each side as a hem, and fill in the corners with one of these fancy wheels made in thread to correspond.

For those who can make tatting, many pretty ways, both in collars and handkerchiefs, are open. Deft fingers can fashion many pretty things out of these combinations. W. D. M.

A SILHOUETTE PARTY

A silhouette party is one of the latest fads of entertainments, and a tactful hostess may make of it a very charming affair.

It makes a very novel entertainment for a church or club, and when given by such, a large number of silhouettes of fairly good size of the different members should be obtained, and each one neatly pasted on a cardboard mount. These should be numbered on the back. Each guest is provided with paper and pencil, and the one who correctly guesses and records upon the paper the identity of the greatest number of silhouettes should be given a small prize of some kind.

If the affair is given as a house-party, the hostess should choose for her subjects persons well known in the community, or well-known public personages if their silhouettes can be secured.

The study of the pictures is very fascinating, and will really take up a good part of the evening.

Light refreshments are usually served at such a party, and a little music or a few tableaux will fill out what should be a very pleasant evening.

Inez Redding.

COOKING EGG-PLANTS

No. 2

I want to tell you the Southern way of cooking egg-plants. Boil three large egg-plants until tender, cut in halves, and scoop out the inside, leaving the peel intact. Mash to a pulp, add one tablespoonful of butter, one egg well beaten, salt, plenty of pepper, one small garlic clove chopped fine, and one pint of cold boiled rice, or bread-crumbs, and about three tablespoonfuls of milk. Mix well, leaving no hard lumps. Now put one large spoonful of lard in a pot, and when real hot put in the prepared egg-plants, and fry well for about twenty minutes. Take out, fill the shells level full, sprinkle toasted bread-crumbs and bits of butter over the top, set in the oven for ten minutes, and serve hot.

No. 4

I will be willing to wager if Mrs. D. P. tries this recipe she will never cook egg-plants any other way.

A Subscriber.

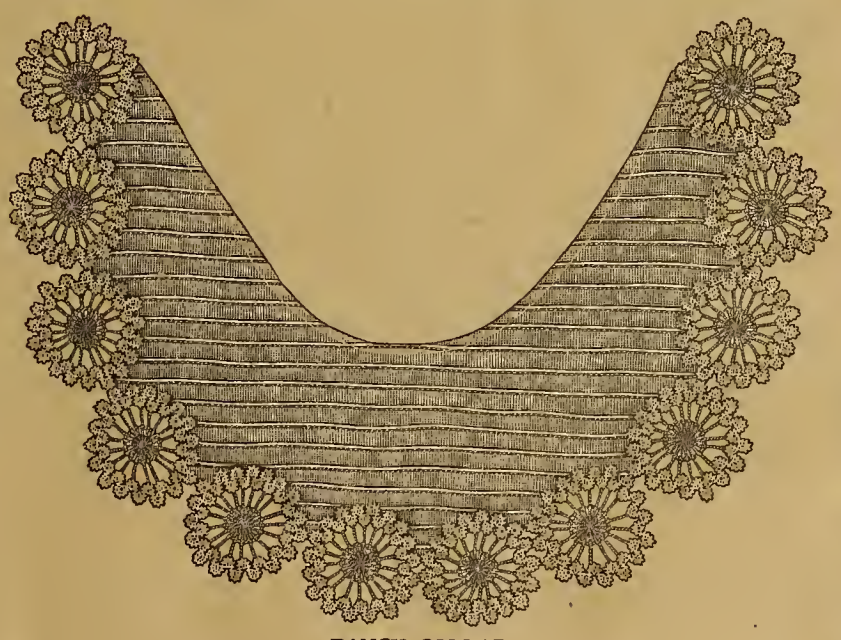
FOR THE LIVING-ROOM

Sneer as we may at woman's love for tidies, cushions, etc., there are but few of us who do not enjoy the air of luxury that soft draperies give to the humblest apartment. To purchase desirable articles in the shops is often beyond the resources of the modest purse, and to make elaborate articles takes more time than busy women can spare. There are many articles, however, which can be quickly and inexpensively made at home which will add materially to the comfort and beauty of the family living-room.

No. 3

The top of a sofa-pillow made from black and yellow dress-braid is very showy. Tack the strips running one way at the top and bottom of the cloth which is to be used for the foundation, and then weave the other strips in like the squares on a checker-board. Line with yellow silk-oline, and finish the edge with a cord of yellow and black. Such a pillow, of course, is rough to the face, but is very effective placed among other pillows.

Black cats seem to be the newest fad in fancy-work, and one of the newest pillow-tops is stamped with a fireplace, in front of which sit several black cats of various sizes. These cats are formed of black fur, trimmed very close to the skin. Similar designs are used for calendars, scratch-my-backs, etc. In the latter articles all the work except the pussies is done in water-colors. The pillow fad is one that is likely to last, so a new idea in pillows is hailed with delight. Very pretty and serviceable pillows are made of the beautiful tapestry which comes by the yard; these are really handsomer than wash-pillows for winter use. They need only a bright cord and tassel as a finish. I. R.



FANCY COLLAR

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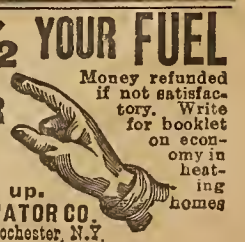

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Beet-Sugar Boom in Colorado

By H. A. CRAFTS

THE beet-sugar industry in Colorado has taken great strides within the past year. New factories are being erected at Greeley and Eaton, in Weld County, and the factory at Loveland, Larimer County, is being enlarged. These factories will be finished in season for the consumption of the beet crop of 1902. Land has been purchased at Fort Collins, Larimer County, for the site of another factory, which will be completed in season to take care of the crop of 1903. A company has been organized for the erection of a plant at Longmont, Boulder County, and another for the building of a second factory at Greeley. With these completed Colorado will have nine beet-sugar factories, there already being three in the southern part of the state.

The situation in the beet-sugar field has been somewhat puzzling, however, during the past several months, a result not only of the contest in Congress over the proposed Cuban reciprocity measure, but the apparent invasion of the state by the American Sugar Refining Company, or so-called "Sugar Trust." Yet there appears to be no halt in the general movement to establish factories. It seems to be an understood thing that the industry is bound to be a success, no matter who puts up the money. Just what part the trust will take in the development of the industry is not known. Some believe that the Havemeyers intend to go into the business on a large scale, and become manufacturers, rather than simply refiners, as they hitherto have been.

The history of the movement for the establishment of a sugar-factory at Fort Collins up to date is interesting, in reflecting some of the methods of the trust in its campaign in Colorado of the past few months. As soon as the citizens' committee having the promotion of a factory in charge was assured of a sufficient acreage of beets, it went East for the purpose of laying the proposition before capitalists interested in the establishing of this special line of manufacture. The result was a visit to Fort Collins of the Pennoyer brothers, the beet-sugar magnates of Bay City and East Saginaw, Mich. These gentlemen became well impressed with the situation, and entered into contracts with the citizens' committee to erect a factory. Then came rumors of the invasion of the beet-sugar field of the West by the "Sugar Trust," and that that company had bought up not less than six of the Michigan factories, and was about to enter Colorado with the purpose of absorbing the beet-sugar interests here. Then came a second visit from one of the Pennoyer brothers, who stated in substance that the rumors were true, and asking that the firm of which he was a partner be absolved of their obligations to the citizens of Fort Collins, and advising the transfer of the contracts to the American Sugar Refining Company. The advice of Mr. Pennoyer was followed, and the contracts were taken up by agents of the Havemeyers, who have since bought one hundred and twenty acres of land adjoining Fort Collins, paying therefor eighteen thousand dollars cash; and now plans are said to have been drawn for the new plant, and the further assertion made that work will soon begin on the construction of the necessary buildings. In the meantime five thousand acres of sugar-beets have been guaranteed for this factory by citizens of Fort Collins and neighboring farmers for the season of 1903.

There appears to be but little difficulty in persuading the farmers of Colorado to take up the culture of sugar-beets. Of course, it requires some active campaigning, but in the end the necessary acreage is obtained. The farmer who raises them one year appears to be the readiest to take hold again. It will require from eight thousand to ten thousand acres of beets to supply the Loveland factory alone this year under its enlarged conditions. The farmers in the vicinity of Fort Collins contributed no small proportion of the beets for that factory last year, and are repeating the operation this year, although on an enlarged scale. Next year, however, they will have quite done their duty when they have supplied their home factory.

This prompt and successful adoption of a new line of culture speaks well for the adaptability of the Colorado farmer. It is quite a radical change for him. He has not been much given to so intensive a form of farming. He has liked to raise wheat and alfalfa—crops that were easily cared for. It was with a little shade of reluctance that he took up the culture of potatoes, but now he has become quite an adept with the hoe and cultivator. Sugar-beets, however, are a harder proposition than potatoes, for the reason that they require so much hand weeding and thinning. Yet the farmers have gone bravely at it, and appear to encounter no insuperable obstacles. The help question is the one requiring the most acumen; but even this is disposed of without great friction. The Colorado farmer generally has his own boys and girls, and these young people work in very handily in the beet-fields. Then he has the town boys from which to draw, and when a pinch comes the larger towns are resorted to for such help as they can furnish. Much of the town help is inclined to be changeful; but the farmers appear to understand this, and if any hand becomes dissatisfied he is allowed to depart, no matter whether he has worked an hour, a day, or a week. He is cheerfully paid whatever wages are due him, and the farmer puts in his place the next hand who applies, and the work goes merrily on.

Beet-weeders are paid from seventy-five cents to one dollar and fifty cents a day, according to strength and ability, with meals found. Boys finding work near town board at home, taking their dinners to the fields with them. They are allowed higher wages than those who have to be boarded on the farms. Those going distances into the country are, as a general thing, required to take their bedding along, and sleep in the barns and bunk-houses, and many a sturdy little fellow, sun-browned and freckled, is seen tramping along the country lanes with his roll of comforters and blankets over his shoulder. It gives the boys some wholesome experience in "hustling" for themselves.

The cultivation of sugar-beets promises to be very beneficial for the older farm-lands in Colorado. Many fields have become very foul with weeds, and the thorough weeding necessary to the successful growing of the beets will have a tendency to cleanse the soil and prevent the spreading of noxious weeds. It has also been discovered that sugar-beets can better be raised on alkalied land than any other known crop, and much otherwise waste land is being reclaimed by planting it to beets.

The sugar-beet is found to be a desirable crop to raise, too, on other accounts. When raised for consumption at a sugar-factory it is raised under contract, so there is no question of a market or a price. As soon as the beets can be harvested and delivered the money is forthcoming. When the price is four dollars and fifty cents a ton, as it is at present in Colorado, the profit is a good one. The cost of growing an acre of beets is about thirty dollars. The receipts from an acre run from fifty dollars to one hundred dollars, according to tonnage.

Then the question of storage on the part of the farmer is also eliminated, excepting perhaps under peculiar circumstances. If the roads should become so bad from excessive rains that the beets could not be delivered immediately upon pulling, then the farmer might be obliged to temporarily store his beets in some shape or other. He would probably throw in a large pile at some convenient point, and await an opportunity for hauling. Should the weather become too cold he would probably cover the beets with a coat of straw. Freezing, however, does not injure the beet for sugar-making; it is only alternate freezing and thawing that is injurious. But the roads seldom, if ever, become impassable in Colorado, so it would be in very rare instances that any delay would result.

The beet-harvesting season is a very busy one in Colorado. The digging, topping and delivering are pushed relentlessly, as it is time and money saved to get the beets to market as rapidly as possible. It is a season, too, when there is an active demand for help. It is the aim at substations of any considerable importance to construct automatic dumps for the wagons, so that the unloading may be done quickly. Yet these are not always provided at the start. For example, all the beets delivered at Fort Collins last fall for shipment to Loveland had to be transferred from the wagons to the cars by hand. This was done by the use of potato-forks and scoop-shovels. It proved to be a slow operation, however, and the railroad-yards were crowded day after day with farm-wagons awaiting an opportunity to be unloaded, there being instances where farmers were compelled to wait all day.

The glut of beets at the factory-yards at Loveland was also enormous. The beets came from all directions in wagons and cars, and the factory-hands and railroad-gangs were compelled to work night and day to take care of them. The accumulation of beets shown in the illustration was brought in from the outside stations upon the cars; yet it measured a quarter of a mile in length, one hundred and twenty feet wide and fifteen feet deep. Still all the crop was successfully delivered, and was worked off without any additional delay, the manufacturing season closing here about the middle of March.

TRAIN-LOADS OF SUGAR-BEETS FOR THE LOVELAND, COL., FACTORY

IRRIGATION BY THE INCAS

In no country in the world has agriculture ever attained to the comparative dignity found in Peru by the Spanish conquerors. Agriculture is admitted to be the backbone of the United States, and statesmen and politicians, especially along toward election-times, manifest great friendliness and affection for the farmers, but the ancient Peruvians, nobles and plebeians alike, were all actual tillers of the soil, and were very proud of their occupation. The Inca grandee himself did not disdain to set the example, and each season on a certain day, attended by his court, the monarch turned up the fresh earth with a golden plow. Ancient Peru then included a large part of Chile, and husbandry was pursued by the Indians on principles truly scientific.

Agriculture was the basis of the political institutions, and remarkable provisions existed for the distribution of the land in equal shares among the people. Government assistance rendered every acre of land productive. Much of the country was arid, like Colorado is at present, and to reclaim this the Incas constructed reservoirs and canals on a magnificent scale. Prescott, in his "Conquest of Peru," describes irrigation-works of splendid proportions and fine efficiency. Some of the canals were of great length, carrying water to the coast valleys from mountain reservoirs hundreds of miles in length. He mentions one canal in particular as nearly five hundred miles long. The building of these long aqueducts called for some remarkable engineering, the results of which in many places are plainly visible to-day.

These works of the Incas, however, were destroyed or suffered to decay by the Spaniards, whose desire was only for gold. Nevertheless, there yet remain a few sections under the ancient irrigation. A recent consular report describes several valleys teeming with tropical luxuriance, situated between parching deserts, irrigated by water flowing through the old water-courses of the Incas, but coming from unknown distances. Under the ancient order the greatest care was exercised that every occupant of the land should receive his share of water. The quantity allotted to each tract of land was prescribed by law, and royal overseers superintended the distribution and saw that it was judiciously and faithfully applied.—Denver Field and Farm.

Sunday Reading

To-morrow you will live, you always cry;
In what far country does this morrow lie
That 'tis so mighty long ere it arrive?
Beyond the Indies does this morrow live?
'Tis so far-fetched, this morrow, that I fear
'Twill be both very old and very dear.
To-morrow I will live, the fool doth say;
Why, e'en to-day's too late, the wise lived yesterday. —Anon.

THE IMPORTED THISTLE

THERE was an old Scotchman of the name of Sandy McKay, settled for many years in western Australia. Although having been so long away from his native land, he still cherished an ardent love for it that seemed to grow stronger as he grew older. He thought he would die happy if he could see once more a real living Scotch thistle to remind him of the fields in which he used to herd the cattle when he was a boy, and of which he was always dreaming. He sent home for the seed, and sowed it carefully and lovingly in his garden-plot. It took kindly to the soil, and great was Sandy's joy to watch its growth until it produced its purple plume and downy head. Proud thoughts of his country's symbol filled his mind. But alas! the downy seeds were carried far and near by the wind, and propagated themselves to such an extent that the plant became a greater pest in the southern hemisphere than it had been in the northern! It got the name of "Sandy McKay's Curse." And so how often do we pray for things, and long as ardently for them as the Scotchman longed for his national symbol in his exile, and when we get them they prove moral thistles that become a curse to ourselves and others!—Hugh Macmillan.

WOULD THEY BE MISSED?

A Paris journal makes the following pertinent suggestion: "Should the French nation suddenly lose three thousand of its leading men, in the walks of agriculture, science, art, manufactures and commerce, the country would be left like a body without a soul, and would at once fall back among the second or third rate powers. But should she lose instead three thousand politicians, orators, legislators, diplomats and distinguished leaders of society, no one would know the difference in ten days, and France would still hold her place in the front rank of civilization."

"So say we all of us." A man who can hoe corn, milk cows, raise white beans, mend shoes, make clothes, manufacture books, build houses, construct steam-engines, or do any other useful work, if missing would be missed; but these crowds of office-seekers, salary-hunters and demagogues, if a millstone were fastened around their necks, and they were cast into the depths of the sea, who would miss them, and who would ever think of fishing them up? The market is overstocked with these slimy, eely, creeping things; and if the whole of them were sunk in the ocean, there are plenty of others to fill their places.

The churches have considerable of the same material that could be spared. There are scores of religious politicians, place-hunters, caucus-managers, wire-pullers and members of nominating committees who are so small that their absence would hardly cause a vacancy; while it might afford honest men a chance to rub the dust from their eyes, see what was going on, and have an election or two that would fairly represent the will of their constituents, instead of being a snatch-and-grab game, planned by a caucus, engineered by office-holders, and arranged to keep incompetents in positions which they never could have attained by their merits and abilities, but which afford them more comfortable support than they would be likely to obtain in any even race along the path of life.

The hard-working, God-fearing, bill-paying, honest, upright men would be missed; but in that day "when many that are first shall be last" people will be astonished to see how small a place it will require to accommodate the hosts of scheming, blustering, "leading" men who profess to represent both church and state.—Epworth Herald.

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A. H. NOONEY

DR. KILMER & CO., Binghamton, N. Y.

About two years ago I had a very severe case of kidney and bladder trouble. The pain in the small of my back was so severe that I could not stand it to stay in one position more than a moment or two, and was obliged to pass water very often day and night. I tried medicines and doctors without getting relief. Noticing an advertisement in the *Topeka State Journal* of Swamp-Root, I determined to give it a trial, and bought a bottle. By the time I had finished the first bottle the pain had entirely disappeared from my back. The pain and frequent desire to pass water ceased. However, I continued to take the medicine, using about six bottles in all. That was over a year ago, and I have had no return of the trouble since.

A. H. Nooney.

Chief Engineer State Capitol Building,
Jan. 2, 1902. Topeka, Kan.

Mrs. H. N. Wheeler, of 117 High Rock St., Lynn, Mass., writes on Nov. 2, 1900: "About 18 months ago I had a very severe spell of sickness. I was extremely sick for three weeks, and when I finally was able to leave my bed I was left with excruciating pains in my back. My water at times looked very like coffee. I could pass but little at a time, and then only after suffering great pain. My physical condition was such that I had no strength and was all run down. *The doctors said my kidneys were not affected*, and while I

Did Not Know I Had Kidney Trouble,

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Mrs. H. N. Wheeler

MRS. H. N. WHEELER

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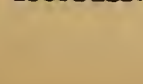

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A Fair Wood-chopper

By MILFORD W. FOSHAY

PART I.

IT WAS a plain little house, just like many others in northern Nebraska, situated on the crest of a gentle swell rising to the south from a depression through which Wood Creek ran to empty into the Platte. Looking northward, cottonwoods and wild-plum trees fringed the creek as far as the eye could reach east and west, the bank making slightly upward until lost in rolling prairie. This was springtime, and the buffalo-grass was a deep green, the poplars in leaf of a lighter shade, while the plums were in the fullness of an abundant bloom. Certainly the background would meet every wish of the landscape-lover's most exacting taste. As to the foreground, it could be declared at least not inhospitable to beauty, for Nature had just let it alone in level plainness, as if extending an invitation to Art to come on and do her best. A feeble attempt had been made by Mr. Knapp, but the signs indicated that means were lacking to plant trees, lay out the lawn and put up a suitable front to the house.

The shadows cast by the grove of poplars on the east had begun to shorten with the steadily rising sun, when Mrs. Knapp came to the door. She shaded her eyes with her hand, the better to obtain a view of the road winding over the prairie like a dark brown thread of zephyr drawn through a groundwork of green. A delicately reared daughter of the East, she had been transplanted to the West by the development of those potent forces which are often called a combination of circumstances. Her soul hungered for such a setting to her home as would give it that cozy and well-cared-for appearance which made recollections of her girlhood a delightful memory.

This desire was fostered by, and in perfect harmony with, the situation which we have already described, as affording ample facilities for beautifying. Husband and wife often spoke of an uncollected account in the East, feeling that with this money once in hand the West would soon cease to have its present weight of barren lonesomeness. And now word had been received on the previous day that it was sent by express to the little station seven miles northeast, to which Mr. Knapp had gone in the early morning for the purpose of getting it. Mrs. Knapp was eagerly awaiting his return.

"When it is really ours to use, shall we not have a lovely home, Sweetie?" she said to her little golden-haired girl of five, whose attractive ways and sweet face had given her such an expressive pet name, used more frequently than her right one, Myrtle.

Another careful look showed a tiny, moving speck in the distance, and the brightening eyes and flushed cheeks betokened the excitement with which she awaited the coming of her husband. When he at length drove up, her expectant attitude made a question unnecessary, and he hastened to say, "All right and safe, love! This little bit of wilderness shall soon blossom as the rose, and thoughts of the East will fade from your mind like—well, lacking poetic inspiration, let us say like the print of a photograph before the fixing-bath has been used." He laughed lightly, suppressing an emotion fully equal to his wife's.

"How I wish I could stay at home for the rest of the day and plan!" she exclaimed. "But I have promised to go to Mrs. Bently's."

"Oh, well, there will be plenty of time, as money is something that keeps. Since you must have the horses, I shall go to Compton and bank it in the morning. Nothing can happen between now and then."

After dinner the work was hastily done up, and Mrs. Knapp drove to her neighbor's, three miles away, while her husband went to finish digging a winter pit for vegetables, at the side of a new log storehouse which he had recently completed. Myrtle was left by her mother to run about as she pleased, as there was no danger of her being hurt in any way. She was in and out of the house, as her fancy led, watching her father occasionally for a few minutes, then putting her very wakeful doll to sleep over and over again.

Mr. Knapp had been at work about half an hour, when a man appeared on the north bank of the little stream. Neither could see the other, for the worker was deep in the pit and behind the log house, so that the stranger could not even see the shovelfuls of earth as they were thrown up. He stood looking at the house for a few minutes, as if gratified with its discovery; but if any one had been near to look at him, the impression would have been distinctly unfavorable. So illy dressed as to suggest the tramp, he was, in addition, possessed of a face with that peculiar evil in it which instantly decides one to avoid such company. Following his short survey, he muttered, "The people in that house shall give me something to eat or there will be trouble!" and he started toward it.

He was obliged to ford the shallow creek, which appeared to have a gravel bed. It did have except in spots; and as he stepped on one of these when near the south bank his foot sank rapidly. Attempting to draw it out, the suction showed him that he was in the quicksands. With an oath he lunged forward, and caught hold of a plum-tree. He barely reached it, and all his strength was required to pull himself out, leaving one boot behind. As he sat on the bank to recover his breath he cursed everything he could think of for being in such luck just when he needed to do so much walking.

"Blast the thing!" he concluded. "I'd like the chance to kill a man for a pair of boots!" and he took his way up the slope.

Rounding the storehouse, he suddenly stopped on seeing some earth fly into the air and land on the pile already made. A cautious look into the pit revealed Mr. Knapp at work. After looking on for a minute he said to himself, decisively, "I'm going to have those boots he stands in!"

He walked to the upper side of the pit, and called out, "I say, mister, come up here! I want to see you!"

Mr. Knapp looked up in surprise, not alone at being so suddenly addressed, but because of the disagreeable tone of command. It nettled him, and this feeling increased when his eye fell on the person who had spoken.

"He raised himself with a start, and saw Myrtle"

"Well, I rather think you can get a good view from where you are," he returned. "If not, it will be easier for you to come down than for me to go up."

Without a word, but with rage showing in his face, the tramp jumped down, and walked toward Mr. Knapp, who kept his eye steadily on him.

"Whose boots have you got on?" he asked, as he came up, looking at Mr. Knapp's feet.

The latter naturally glanced down. As he did so the tramp struck him a terrific blow in the temple with a pair of heavy brass knuckles.

"There, curse you for your impudence, how do you like that?" he growled, when his victim fell.

Waiting a moment, he saw him breathe two or three times, then straighten out, while the face grew white and set. Hastily bending down, the tramp put his finger on the wrist of the fallen man.

"I believe I've done for him!" he exclaimed, startled in spite of the spirit of murder which had been in him. "I've been a fool again, with this infernal temper of mine!"

He arose quickly, and looked about him. No one was in sight. Whatever was to be done must be attended to at once.

"Boots first," he said, in a low, excited, yet determined, voice, while he made the exchange. Then he added, "Might as well have what else there is," and he felt in the pockets of Mr. Knapp's trousers. "Poor as a squatter!" he mumbled, when a knife, key and other trifles came to light. He was about to rise, when his hand passed over a bunch under the shirt-front. He tore open the garment, and brought out an envelope with express-marks on it. The seal was broken, and he eagerly undid it. A roll of bank-notes fell out. The greedy eyes glistened as he clutched them.

"Won't I have a blow-out now!" he exclaimed, and fell to counting them rapidly. They were of large denominations, and began to puzzle his Lilliputian brain after the amount got beyond one thousand.

"The deuce and all!" he soon exclaimed, "I can't stop to count this!" He stuffed it into his pocket, and clambered out of the pit. He wondered at seeing no one about, and was thinking of slipping back down to the creek, when the pangs of hunger asserted themselves.

"I've simply got to eat!" he said, and turned to the house. "It's odd I don't hear anything going on in there."

He passed through the door, and saw Myrtle sitting in her little rocking-chair, holding her doll on her lap.

"Hush-sh," she whispered, smiling at him. "My dolly mustn't be 'sturbed."

Involuntarily he stepped lightly, and asked, in a low voice, "Where's your ma?"

"She's gone 'way off, an' won't be back for a long time."

"Luck, by George!" he said to himself; then aloud he asked, "Where can I get something to eat?"

"Go right into the pantry. That's the way papa does."

He ate and thought rapidly.

"How am I to get away with this? There'll be blue blazes to pay when the old woman gets back, and they'll telegraph to all the stations. I'll have to do a little figuring."

He finished his lunch, packed his pockets full of food, and walked to the edge of the pit. He soon decided on a course of action. Jumping down, he took the body by the shoulders, and lifted it toward the entrance. As he did so he heard some one say, "Papa, why don't you get up?"

He raised himself with a start, and saw Myrtle, her eyes wide with wonder, looking at him. In a fierce voice he ordered, "You go back to the house, and don't come out again until I tell you to!"

Accustomed to obey, and frightened by his manner, she went at once, but what she had seen was indelibly stamped on her memory.

The tramp resumed his work. He took the odd boot, and covered all but the toe with earth, bringing down a large heap from the side of the pit to give the impression that the murdered man lay underneath. He next dragged the body up the incline and around to the pile on the outside. There he buried it.

"That'll keep 'em hunting for a few hours," he panted. He was growing more and more excited at the delay in getting off, yet felt the necessity of covering his tracks. "It's all I can do, anyhow," he concluded, and started toward the creek, but suddenly stopped. His thought had been that if taken on suspicion nothing could be proven, for by daylight he should be miles away. In his hurried work he forgot the money, and its presence was just now remembered. "What a fool! I can't lug this about! But where can I put it so that I can find it afterward?"

He glanced back over his shoulder, and a unique method of concealment came to him. Retracing his steps with all possible speed, he went into the log house and secured a tool. When he was through with it he was much relieved, and chuckled, "I've lost a quarter of an hour, but it's the slickest thing out! They'll have to get the spirits to show 'em where it is."

He hastened to the creek, crossed over, and under cover of the trees walked rapidly eastward.

[TO BE CONTINUED]

DEPARTURE OF THE SWALLOWS

The rain-drops plash, and the dead leaves fall,
On spire and cornice and mold;
The swallows gather, and twitter and call.
"We must follow the summer, come one, come all,
For the winter is now so cold."

Just listen awhile to the wordy war,
As to whither the way shall tend;
Says one, "I know the skies are fair
And myriad insects float in air
Where the ruins of Athens stand.

"And every year, when the brown leaves fall,
In a niche of the Parthenon
I build my nest on the corniced wall,
In the trough of a devastating ball
From the Turk's besieging gun."

Says another, "My cozy home I fit
On a Smyrna grande café,
Where over the threshold Hadjii sit,
And smoke their pipes, and their coffee sip,
Dreaming the hours away."

Another says, "I prefer the nave
Of a temple of Baalbec;
There my little ones lie when the palm-trees wave,
And, perching near on the architrave,
I fill each open beak."

"Ah!" says the last, "I build my nest
Far up on the Nile's green shore,
Where Memnon raises his stony crest,
And turns to the sun as he leaves his rest,
But greets him with song no more.

"In his ample neck is a niche so wide,
And withal so deep and free,
A thousand swallows their nests can hide,
And a thousand little ones rear beside—
Then come to the Nile with me."

They go, they go, to the river and plain,
To ruined city and town;
They leave me alone with the cold again,
Beside the tomb where my joys are lain,
With hope like the swallows flown.

—Translated from the French by Gautier.

Still let it ever be thy pride
To linger by the laborer's side;
With words of sympathy or song
To cheer the dreary march along
Of the great army of the poor,
O'er desert sand, o'er dangerous moor.
Nor to thyself the task shall be
Without reward; for thou shalt learn
The wisdom early to discern,
True beauty is utility.

—Longfellow.

IN DEFIANCE OF PARENTAL AUTHORITY

BY WILLIAM FORSTER BROWN

"JACK," observed the Colonel, letting his hand hover irresolutely over the chess-board, "has it ever occurred to you that it would be an extremely nice arrangement if those two children of ours would fall in love with each other? You and I are getting along in years—eh, old friend?—and I'd like to see Lila settled in a home of her own before the order comes for taps. There is no one in the world I would rather give my daughter to than Billie; the boy is white clear through—he could scarcely be anything different, though, and his father's son. I can't imagine why they don't," continued the Colonel, argumentatively; "they like each other all right, and are always together—riding, playing golf or something—but never a thought of building a nest of their own. Just listen to that, will you?" he broke off.

Through the library doorway came the blithe notes of a rollicking duet, sung by two happy, care-free young voices. A tender smile blossomed on Lawyer Reed's clean-shaven lips. "Bless their hearts!" he said, softly. "Nothing would give me greater satisfaction or happiness, Phil, than to have what you mentioned come to pass. I've had the same thought myself, and hinted at something of the kind to Billie—once."

"Well?" said Colonel Bradlee, tentatively.

"The young rascal laughed at me; said the idea was absurd; that while Lila and he were the best of chums, and all that, there was no thought of any nonsense of that sort between them. Billie hinted," went on the Lawyer, ruefully, "that I had better stick to chess, and let match-making alone."

"Lila appears to be of about the same opinion," remarked the Colonel, drily. "She called me an old goose to be thinking of such things. I call it flying in the face of Providence"—blocking an unexpected onslaught on his queen—"for if ever two people were made for each other, it was those two, and they haven't the sense to see it."

John Reed nodded, then all at once smote his knee softly with his hand. "Phil," he said, lowering his voice, "do you remember that white mule we used to have at headquarters—in '65?"

"Ben Johnson's mule?" replied the Colonel, with a reminiscent grin. "Of course I do. The boys used to say that when Ben wanted that mule to go anywhere he'd head him in the opposite direction, yell 'Git up!' at him, and old Cæser would wheel and run the other way like a deer."

"Young human nature and mule nature are a good deal similar sometimes," remarked the Lawyer, significantly, leaning back in his chair.

Vague comprehension began to dawn on Colonel Bradlee's countenance. "Do you think we might work something of the sort, Jack?" he queried, eagerly. "I'd do most anything to bring it about, short of putting my girl on bread and water—or not kissing her."

John Reed rose to his feet. "Philip Bradlee," he said, in a serious voice, "prepare to have your innermost feelings outraged. I am going to insult you—For goodness' sake, Phil," he whispered, as he perceived a look of blank astonishment sweep over his friend's face, "don't look like that; it's only a bluff! Play your part, man, and don't give me away."

He swept the chess-board off the table with a bang. "Colonel Bradlee," he cried loudly, angrily, "this is not the first time I have caught you trying to take an unfair advantage, but it's the last game I'll play with a—a—"

Something choked his speech, but the Colonel rose to the situation like a hero. "Leave my house," he roared, "you insulting—er—er—pettifogger!" he wound up, triumphantly.

There was a sudden rush into the library, and a dismayed chorus, "Father!—Colonel Bradlee!"

"You too, sir!" yelled the Colonel. "Don't you dare set foot in my house again! Lila—if I know of your having anything more to do with the son of John Reed, I'll—I'll—disown you! They're a pair of—"

Billie Reed grasped his father's arm. "Come, father," he said, proudly, "Colonel Bradlee has forgotten that he is a gentleman!"

As the pair marched stiffly erect through the library door the Lawyer cautiously turned his head; but Lila's eyes were too full of tears to intercept the deliberate wink he shot at the man he had so basely insulted.

"They'll never consent," said Lila, dolefully. She was standing with Billie Reed behind the grape-arbor in her father's yard a week later, and even a disinterested spectator would have needed no second glance to have shown him that the wondrous light—which never yet was on sea or land—was all around them.

"What if they don't?" replied Billie, stoutly. "They ought to be ashamed of themselves, anyway, trying to keep us apart because they've quarreled! I owe them a debt of gratitude for it, though. I've found out how blind I was—and it's given me the right to—"

"Billie!" cried a muffled voice, "somebody'll surely see us!"

"Let 'em!" replied Billie. "Now listen, Mrs. William Reed-to-be—it's no use for us to wait for parental approval, father and Colonel Bradlee won't as much as bow to each other! Let's take matters into our own hands, and get married right now—this afternoon! Then we can tell 'em, and they can storm as much as they like, and they can't alter anything. Besides, I don't believe they would hold out forever. We'll slip out the back gate, and go down to the church-study on Carver Street. I saw the Reverend Tisdale going in when I came over." Billie fumbled in his pocket, and produced a formidable-looking document. "I got a special license this morning," he announced, in triumphant tones.

Lila Bradlee opened her lips to say no—to expostulate—hesitated, and was lost. Hand in hand the lovers fled swiftly down the graveled walk. As the defiers of authority vanished through the gate, a portly form rose warily from the further side of the grape-arbor, hastened to the fence that bounded Lawyer Reed's lawn, and whistled shrilly.

The Colonel was setting up the chessmen as his old friend joined him in the library. "They've gone to the minister's!" he gasped. "Don't that beat all the rapid transit you ever heard of?"

The Colonel crossed to the buffet, and performed sundry mysterious rites with a decanter and glasses. "To the children's future happiness," he said, solemnly.

"Thank the Lord it came out all right," said John Reed, setting down his glass. "I don't believe I could have kept it up another week."

The newly wedded pair paused on the familiar threshold, and stared in utter bewilderment at the two erstwhile bitter enemies placidly playing chess. "Father," called Billie, "you here?"

"Howdy do, Billie," remarked the Colonel, rising affably. "Been getting married? Your father just came over to congratulate you. Lila—" The Colonel's voice turned husky all at once, and he opened wide his arms. "Come here, girlie," he cried, "it's all right!" and in a second his daughter's head was resting on his shoulder and her arms were around his neck.

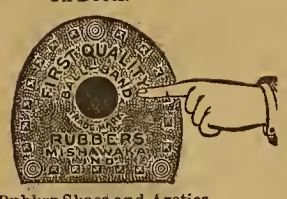
THE WELCOME

Come in the evening, or come in the morning;
Come when you're looked for, or come without warning;
Kisses and welcome you'll find here before you,
And the oftener you come here, the more I'll adore you!
Light is my heart since the day we were plighted;
Red is my cheek that they told me was blighted;
The green of the trees looks far greener than ever,
And the linnets are singing, "True lovers don't sever!"

—Thomas Davis.

A Small Red Ball on a Rubber Boot

On Boots.



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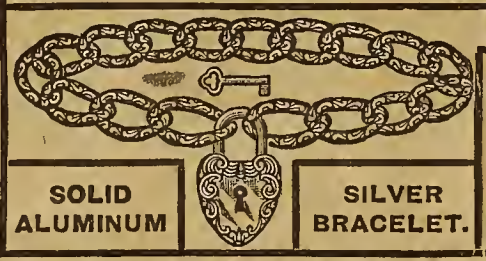
GIRLS, do you desire to receive this big and handsome **Talking and Sleeping Doll Baby free of all cost,** for a little work after school hours? If so, write us at once and we will mail you **twenty** fast selling and useful articles for ladies' and gentlemen's wear, to dispose of at only **ten cents each.** When sold, remit us the money ($2.00) and we will forward to your address, by mail, **postage prepaid,** carefully packed in **strong corrugated mailing boxes,** this wonderful, mechanical, Talking and Sleeping Doll, as described in this advertisement. Order **twenty** articles at once and address,

TALKING DOLL WORKS,
37 TALKING DOLL BUILDING,
BRIDGEWATER, - - CONN.

EXTRA PRESENT.—This handsomely engraved **Aluminum Silver Bracelet,** together with a pretty **Doll Chatelaine,** are all given free as **Extra Presents** (in addition to the doll) for making prompt remittance.



Latest Wonder of the doll makers' art

NO MONEY WANTED—Not a cent from your own pocket, as we deliver dolls and extra presents by mail, right to your post office, without costing you a cent for charges, etc. PLEASE REMEMBER THIS.

Costs you no money

to get one of these. The **Family Dial-Scale** will be sent

to any one sending us 6 yearly Subscriptions

A perfect, practical, durable, accurate dial-scale. A scale without weights. Never the worry and bother of hunting for a mislaid weight. Ready instantly to weigh provisions, groceries, or anything about your house. It is constructed **entirely of steel,** with enameled dial. It weighs by ounces up to twenty-four pounds. It is perfectly simple in construction, nothing to get out of order. By means of a simple thumb-screw the scale is kept absolutely accurate, even in extremely hot or extremely cold weather. Whether you buy or sell it is indispensable—a reliable, ever-ready friend that you ought not to be without. Scale sent by express, charges paid by receiver. Shipping weight about eight pounds. Order as **No. 486.**

We will send this Dial-Scale FREE for sending 6 yearly subscriptions, new or renewal, to the FARM AND FIRESIDE; or

We will send the FARM AND FIRESIDE one year, new or renewal, and this Family Dial-Scale for only $1.25

(To Club-Raisers:—When the subscriber pays you this special price you are entitled either to the regular cash commission or to count the name in a club.)

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio

How to Dress

OUR FASHIONS

THE slot-seam effect in so many of this season's styles allows the introduction of another color, which stands out in alluring harmony. It should always be one of severe contrast, never a shade of the same color.

In hats there is a wilderness of pretty materials, from the hairy felt for ordinary occasions to the wondrous creations in velvet crêpe de lisse and ostrich-feathers. In spite of the cry against egrets, they have appeared again this fall in great numbers. Also the fluffy marabou-feather, which was a great favorite in the time of our grandmothers, has been revived.

WALKING-SUIT

DINNER-GOWN

HOME-GOWN

YOUNG GIRLS' SUIT

Hairy and rough effects predominate in all the street-hats, both for old and young. CHRISTIE IRVING.

WALKING-SUIT

Slot-seam effects appear upon many of the season's smartest gowns and suits. The material used for the model illustrated is zibeline in cuirass-gray, trimmed with bands of plain cloth in a lighter shade, piped with black. The slot-seam blouse has a large turn-over collar, and is worn over a white Oxford cloth shirt-waist. These will be worn the entire winter.

YOUNG GIRLS' SUIT

Blouse costumes for young girls are at once jaunty, becoming and smart. The model illustrated is of broadcloth in wood-brown, with trimmings of brown panne velvet and carved metal buttons.

HOME-GOWN

Wool and silk shirt-waists are much worn with simple jackets and odd skirts. The model illustrated is of taffeta in pastel-green, and is worn with a skirt of black metallic velvet trimmed with plain velvet bands.

DINNER-GOWN

Silk trimmed with cloth is an effective novelty of the season, and will be much worn. The model illustrated is a louisine silk in gobelin blue, with bands of blue satin-faced cloth, a yoke of panne velvet, and trimming of lace in the tawny shade known as Arab. The medallion trimming is very stylish.

Any of these patterns furnished from this office for ten cents. Waist and skirt can be purchased as separate patterns.

DINNER-GOWN.—Waist, No. 4263. Bust measures, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40. Skirt, No. 4247. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34 inches.

WALKING-SUIT.—Waist, No. 4210. Bust measures, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches. Skirt, No. 4257. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches.

YOUNG GIRLS' SUIT.—Waist, No. 4255. Bust measures, three sizes, 32, 36 and 40 inches. Skirt, No. 4031. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches.

HOME-GOWN.—Waist, No. 4259. Bust measures, 34, 38 and 42 inches. Skirt, No. 4223. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches.

The Family Physician

By ROBERT B. HOUSE, M.D.

Life is a railway-track; the years are the stations; death is the destination of the travelers, and the physicians are the engineers.

GETTING RID OF RATS

Common green copperas pulverized and thrown pretty plentifully about where the rats travel, and also in their holes, so they must walk over it, will effectually drive them away, where traps, poisons and cats fail to dislodge the pests. The copperas makes their feet sore, and they will speedily leave. This remedy has proven so entirely successful that it is a pleasure to make it known.

CARE OF THE BABY

It is a mistake to overheat or bundle the baby. Of course they lose heat rapidly, but babies are weakened by too much wrapping, combined with too hot rooms, especially after the second or third month, and this may be the cause of weakened digestion. Next to this come coddling, handling, petting, exhibiting, jumping and jolting—all going to create overstimulation, from which there is sure to be a reaction in time, resulting in vomiting, loss of appetite, and preventing the greatest essential to correct infant-raising—sleep. A baby that sleeps poorly is sure to suffer from indigestion and poor nutrition, while the baby that sleeps well is well nourished, and usually grows fat and abounds in good-nature.

HOT WATER FOR INDIGESTION

"In some cases where the hot-water cure for indigestion is used with discretion there is really much benefit from it," says "Good Housekeeping." "When hot water is taken to excess, often at such a temperature as to scald the tongue and palate when drinking it, instead of curing indigestion it will make it worse. The stomach does its work to best advantage when food that is neither very much above nor very much below the normal temperature of the human body is consigned to it. The scalding fluid, which after awhile can be borne by the hot-water habitué, is liable to almost parboil the tender gastric glands, treating them to a shock as unnatural as would be inflicted by the ice-water douche."

EATING OF FRUIT

If people ate more fruit they would take less medicine, and consequently have better health. There is an old saying that "fruit is golden in the morning and lead at night." As a matter of fact, it may be gold at both times; but it should be eaten when the stomach is empty, and not as a dessert, when the appetite is satisfied and the digestion is already sufficiently taxed. Fruit taken in the morning before the fast of the night has been broken is very refreshing, and it serves as a stimulus to the digestive organs. A ripe apple or an orange may be taken at this time with good effect. Fruit to be really valuable as an article of diet should be ripe, sound and in every way of good quality, and if possible it should be eaten raw. Instead of eating a plate of ham or eggs and bacon for breakfast, most people would do far better if they took some grapes, pears or apples—fresh fruit so long as it is to be had, and after that they can fall back on stewed prunes, figs, etc. If only fruit of some sort formed an important item in their breakfasts, women would generally feel brighter and stronger, and would have far better complexions than is the rule at present.—Woman's Medical Journal.

The Family Lawyer

By JUDGE WM. M. ROCKEL

Legal inquiries of general interest from our regular subscribers will be answered in this department free of charge. Querists desiring an immediate answer by mail should remit one dollar, addressed "Law Department," this office.

DOWER RIGHTS.—Interested party inquires: "If a man dies without leaving a will, and his children are all of age and his property is all real estate, what share does his widow get? Can she will it at her death to whom she chooses, or does it go to the heirs, to be divided equally between them?" The widow merely has a life-estate in one third of the real estate. She could not will it away, for at her death her rights cease.

SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE.—M. A. M., Iowa, desires to know: "If an administrator must file an itemized account, and whether an administrator can require a receipt to be given before the parties are satisfied with the account." All courts require a very strict accountability from an administrator and persons holding a trust capacity. An itemized account is always required, and no heir should sign a receipt until the proper account is filed and the court has passed thereon.

PROSPECTIVE PROPERTY.—J. C. H., Oregon, gives this proposition: "Suppose Mrs. H. is in very poor health with consumption, and her father has a good chance to outlive her. He has made his will, dividing his property among his children. Now, can Mrs. H. make a will disposing of the property she would get, providing she would outlive her father?" Yes, she can dispose of such property as she owned at the time of her death. A person by will can dispose of after-acquired property. This is contrary to the common-law rule, but such provision is made by statute in nearly all the states.

WIFE'S RIGHT.—Anxious friend inquires: "Whether under the laws of either Illinois or Indiana a man has the right to wilfully put or hold his property in other hands to spite his wife. Is there a law to force him to put it in his own hands?" It has been held in Ohio, and I presume it would be similarly held in other states, that a man or woman may during his or her lifetime dispose of his or her property in whatever manner he or she may deem proper. Of course, as to the real estate the man could not deprive the wife of her dower rights. If the husband is mistreating the wife, she has a right to bring an action in the nature of a suit for alimony, and have her rights determined, otherwise I would say that the man would have the right to put his property in other hands if he saw fit.

DELIVERY OF DEED.—J. O. B., Michigan, makes this inquiry: "What constitutes a delivery of a warranty deed. A. ten years previous to his death executed deeds of all his property to his children, placing them in the hands of a trustee, with paper stating that three days after his death they should be recorded and delivered to the parties; also put property and deeds into the possession of the grantees, which they still hold. Would these deeds constitute title to property, or could they be withdrawn and the property disposed of by will?" If these deeds were delivered into the possession of the third person, with instructions that they should be delivered after the death of the maker, and no right or control over the deeds was reserved by the maker, the deeds would be good, and they could not be withdrawn. If, however, the owner or maker of the deed reserves a right to cancel or withdraw them, delivery is not complete, and no title passes.

The Young People

WHISTLE OR WHINE

Two little boys were on their way to school. The smaller one tumbled, and though not badly hurt he began to whine in a babyish way—a little, cross whine.

The older boy took his hand in a fatherly way, and said, "Oh, never mind, Jimmie, don't whine; it is a great deal better to whistle." And he began in the merriest way a cheerful boy whistle.

Jimmie tried to join in the whistle. "I can't whistle as nice as you, Charlie," said he; "my lips'll not pucker up good."

"That's because you haven't got all the whine out yet," said Charlie; "but you try a minute, and the whistle will drive the whine away."

So he did, and the last I saw or heard of the little fellows they were whistling away as earnestly as though that were the chief end of life.—The Junior Christian Endeavor.

A BOOMERANG

BY ELLIOT WALKER

When the two little boys flew out of the blackberry-patch, and ripped recklessly through the barbed-wire fence, the man behind them was mean enough to laugh derisively.

"Scared 'em nigh ter death, didn't I?" he chuckled. "Little rats! Third time I've warned 'em ter keep out! They will now! Hello! here's their pail!"

From a safe distance piped a shrill, anguished voice. "Mister! Mister! Can't we have our berries?"

"No, you can't! Git along now! I'm a-goin' ter keep these! Hoo!" He raised his fist, and advanced threateningly. The children fled.

"Nice berries! Must be two quarts." He refreshed himself from the ill-gotten prize. "Take 'em home fer supper," was his unrighteous chuckle. "Let's see. I've time fer a good swim an' get back by six. Whew! it's hot!"

It was shady and cool in the high alder-bushes by the pond where he undressed. A plunge in the grateful water, and he was swimming steadily out in the lake, in high enjoyment. By and by he splashed upon the shore.

"Stayed in a bit too long. I'm chilly!" was his shivering reflection. "Where's my clothes?"

A ghostly garment waved upon a sapling twenty feet away. "There's my shirt! What the dickens— That pail's gone, too!"

It took him an hour to find his scattered garb, and then he couldn't find one shoe. The mosquitoes were extremely annoying.

Sadly limping home, he uttered a wrathful but sensible decision, "Guess I won't say anything 'bout this. It might git 'round."

"What ails the children?" Mr. Murdoch asked his wife, as she was clearing the table. "They giggled all through supper."

"Oh, I don't know. Been berrying and maybe got into some mischief. They picked quite a lot. I'm going to make a pie."

But after the boys were in bed, their father went up-stairs, and said, sternly, "Stop laughing, and go to sleep; I want to read!"

Wit and Humor

THE LECTURER'S ADDRESS IN FULL

Harry Furniss tells of a testy but popular Scotch lecturer who on a tour of the Lowlands met a chairman so impressed with the importance of his office that in introducing the visitor he actually talked for an hour. The gathering bore it all patiently. This was the chairman's peroration:

"It is unnecessary for me to say more; so I call upon the distinguished gentleman who has come so far to give us his address to-night."

The gentleman who had come so far arose, stepped forward, bowed, pulled out and looked at his watch, and then said, "You want my address? It is 322 Rob Roy Crescent, Edinburgh. A letter will find me there. Good-night."

Saying which he left the stage and the hall before anybody could interpose.—Philadelphia Times.

HIS METHOD

"You've made a mistake in my bill," said a young man, excitedly, yesterday to the proprietor of a prominent tailoring-house.

"That can't be," asserted the tailor, mildly.

"Oh, but it's so!" exclaimed the youth, in a flurry. "Look here! Ten dollars too much charged on this bill!"

The proprietor compared the bill with his books. "You're right, Mr. Blank," he admitted. "I'll take ten dollars off; and how much did you say you wanted to pay on account?"

The young man grew red, coughed, and finally produced a five-dollar note.

"That works every time," confided the tailor to an interested bystander, after the customer had departed. "Nothing brings a man here in such a hurry as to overcharge him on his bill. When a customer gets a little backward and dodges the place I send him a bill overcharging him. He comes on a rush to have the mistake corrected, and a little diplomacy does the rest. Best of all, it doesn't hurt his feelings, as would a visit from a collector."—Philadelphia Record.

RECENT FICTION

Wild animals that have known me.—Life.

FINE NEW PATTERNS ONLY 10 CENTS

These patterns retail in fashion bazaars and stores for twenty-five to forty cents each, but in order to increase the demand for our paper among strangers, and to make it more valuable than ever to our old friends, we offer them to the lady readers of our paper for the low price of only **10 cents each.** Or

FREE We will give any TWO of these patterns for sending ONE yearly subscription, new or renewal, to the FARM AND FIRESIDE at the clubbing price of 35 cents.

Or we will send the FARM AND FIRESIDE One Year, new or renewal, and any ONE pattern for Only 35 Cents

Full descriptions and directions—as the number of yards of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, *with a picture of the garment to go by.* These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a *separate* pattern for *every single piece* of the dress. All orders filled promptly.

For ladies, give BUST measure in inches. For SKIRT patterns, give WAIST measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give both BREAST measure in inches and age in years. Order patterns by their numbers.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

To get BUST and BREAST measure, put the tape-measure ALL of the way around the body, over the dress, close under the arms.

Special price of each pattern 10 cents.

Postage one cent EXTRA on skirt, tea-gown and other heavy patterns.

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio

No. 4246.—Norfolk Coat. 10 cents. Sizes, 32 to 40 inches bust.

No. 4227.—Boys' Blouse Suit. 10 cents. Sizes, 4 to 12 years.

No 4256.—Girls' Box-plaited Costume. 11 cents. Sizes, 8 to 14 years.

No. 4255.—Misses' Blouse Jacket. 10 cents. Sizes, 12 to 16 years.

No. 4181.—Boys' Box-plaited Shirt-waist. 10 cents. Sizes, 6 to 16 years.

No. 4251.—Box-plaited Blouse. 10 cents. Sizes, 32 to 42 inches bust.

No. 4250.—Blouse Shirt-waist. 10 cents. Sizes, 32 to 40 inches bust.

No. 4046.—Boys' Knee Trousers. 10 cents. Sizes, 4 to 12 years.

No. 4254.—Girls' Apron. 10 cents. Sizes, 4, 6 and 8 years.

No. 4253.—Slot-seam Shirt-waist. 10 cents. Sizes, 32 to 42 inches bust.

No. 4248.—Girls' Slot-seam Costume. 11 cents. Sizes, 6 to 14 years.

No 4234.—Girls' Costume. 11 cents. Sizes, 6 to 12 years.

Farm Selections

NEWS-NOTES

THE farmer east of the Mississippi who now has the beef steer in his pasture is the one who is in a position to steer clear of the foreclosure of a mortgage.

Something ought to be done to equalize the difference between what the producer receives and what the consumer pays for orchard and garden products.

The farmer who conducts his business without keeping a strict account of the cost of production is like a mariner at sea without compass or rudder to guide him to port.

St. Louis as a distributing-point for early and late potatoes is by far the largest in the United States. The early potato crop of the South, which arrives in solid train-loads at St. Louis, is distributed to other large markets.

As the owners of steam-threshers are compelled to have outfits of ten to twenty horse-power engines the need of stronger bridges and better roads is imperative. Better roads make better farmers, and farm life more worth the living.

In Kansas the acreage devoted to Kafir-corn (one of the sorghums) is nearly one fourth more than it was last year. The immense acreage planted to the sweet varieties of sorghum as feed for stock has been greatly increased, also.

Prof. W. L. Howard, of the Missouri Experiment Station, reports that the Japanese walnut-tree is not injured by cold in that locality, whereas the English walnut is not hardy enough to withstand the cold. The Japanese variety commenced bearing when four years of age.

In 1900 the world's production of beet-sugar was almost two thirds the total amount consumed. The consumption of beet and cane sugar in the United States the same year was 63.70 per cent; in 1901, 68.4 per cent. The United States is the world's greatest (per capita) consumer of sugar.

The farmer should respect himself and his calling, and be a leader, rather than a follower. He should consider his business from the high standpoint of usefulness, and should therefore "magnify his calling." No work is more important than his, and none upon which the welfare of the human family so absolutely depends.

Of the really useful bulletins recently issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, that of No. 226, entitled "The Home Vineyard," prepared by Mr. W. H. Ragan, of the Pomological Division, is one that will be of practical value to all who wish to grow a few or many grape-vines. Mr. Ragan was for many years secretary of the Indiana State Horticultural Society, and has a well-deserved national reputation.

The high price and scarcity of beef and other meat products has aroused the citizens of the leading cities to the necessity of having well-managed abattoirs (slaughter-houses) in their immediate vicinity. It has also awakened an increased zeal on the part of both large and small farmers to increase the production of high-grade beef, pork, mutton, etc. The temporary inconvenience that has resulted may be followed by conditions that will prevent the recurrence of prohibitory prices. * * *

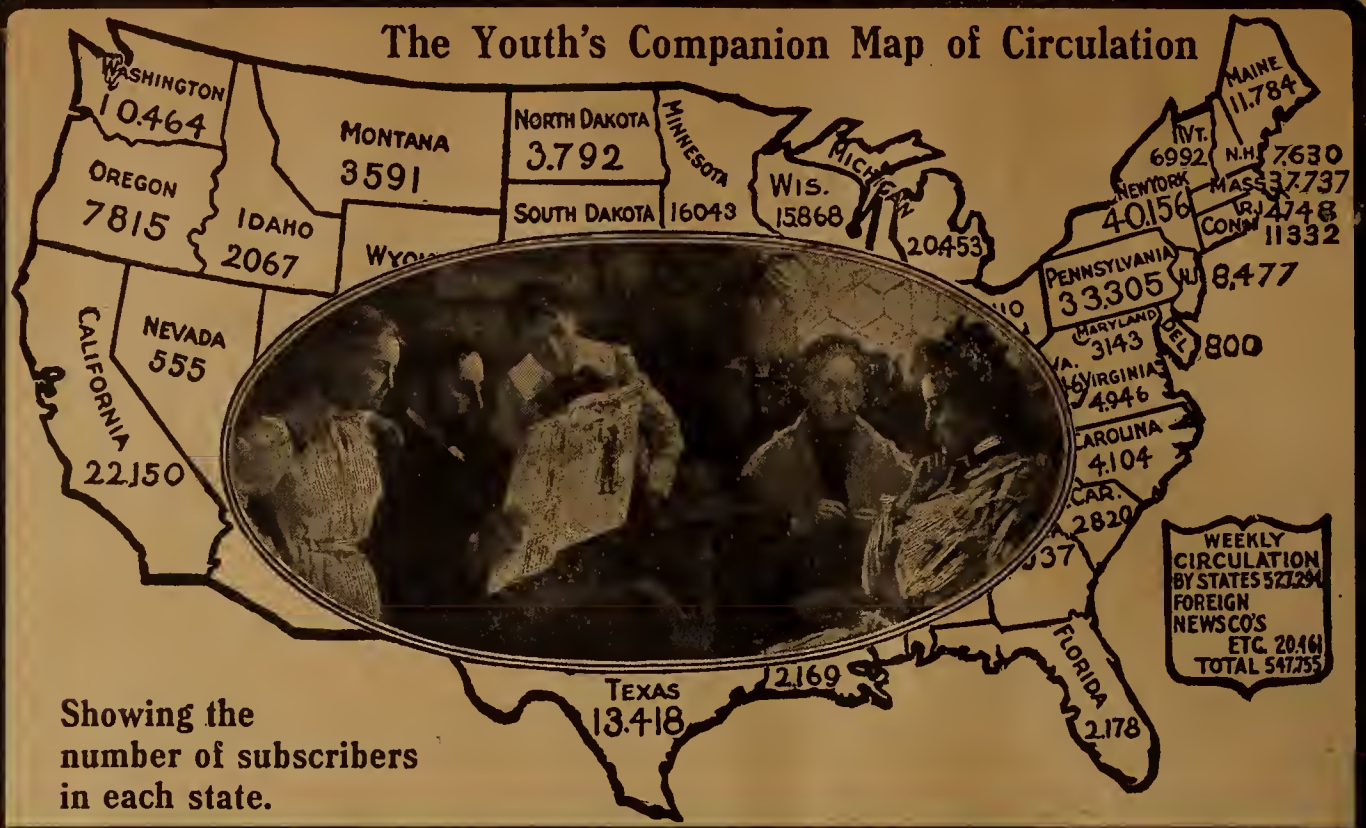
CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Kitselman Brothers, Muncie, Ind. Pamphlet giving facts and figures regarding Duplex automatic woven-wire-fence machine.

Chicago Motor Vehicle Company, Chicago, Ill. Illustrated pamphlet describing a full line of gasolene-motor vehicles.

The Best Street Light Company, Canton, Ohio. Descriptive circular of the "Best" incandescent vapor-gas lamps.

McMillan Fur & Wool Co. Monthly price-list of furs, sheep-pelts, deerskins, ginseng, golden-seal and beeswax.



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We will send four bottles of our unrivalled remedy securely packed in wooden box, like cut, no distinguishing marks, postpaid, FREE. This remedy, the result of many years of practice and study in leading European hospitals, is unsurpassed for the treatment and cure of all

BLOOD DISEASES

and the resulting different forms of ERUPTIONS and ULCERS. We also send free valuable PAMPHLET describing cause and growth of skin disease and the proper treatment of Eczema, itching of the Skin, and all skin diseases, inherited or self-acquired, loss of Hair, Ulcers, Running Sores, Pains of Neuralgic or Rheumatic nature, ***BLOOD POISON***, etc.

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Catarrh can be Cured

Catarrh is a kindred ailment of consumption, long considered incurable; and yet there is one remedy that will positively cure catarrh in any of its stages. For many years this remedy was used by the late Dr. Stevens, a widely noted authority on all diseases of the throat and lungs. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all sufferers from Catarrh, Asthma, Consumption, and nervous diseases, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper.

W. A. NOYES, 847 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

GIVEN AWAY

A HANDSOME WATCH GIVEN AWAY.

You can obtain one of our handsome Watches without cost, if you sell 20 cases of our Perfume at 5c. each among your friends, and send us the One Dollar thus received. We are distributing these Watches simply to advertise our business. There is no misrepresentation or humbug about this—so if you wish to secure one of our Watches, all we ask is that when you receive it you will show it to your friends. Thousands are receiving watches from us and are delighted with them. This is a grand opportunity to get a handsome Watch, without paying a cent. **We give a beautiful Watch** as a present to anyone who sells 20 cases of our Perfume at 5c. each and remits us $1.00 for same. Send your name and address and we will mail you the Perfume postpaid. When sold, send us the $1.00, and we will forward you the handsome **Gold** laid Watch. We trust you and take back all you cannot sell. No catch-words in this advertisement. We mean just what we say. You require no capital while working for us. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Address, PERSIAN CO., Box 180, New York City.

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A Gold Lined Silver Dish FREE!

To introduce our famous little **Giant Oxien Pills**, giving all the chance to derive the wonderful benefits from these new life giving wonders, we send two boxes absolutely free all charges paid. You sell the Pills for 25c. per box send us the money within 20 days, 50c. in all, and we give you as a premium this wonderful **Gold Lined Silver Dish free.** These dishes are warranted **quadruple plated silver**, they are fluted top and beautiful and useful ornaments, they are suitable for dining table use or used as side dish or for bon bons they are elegant and will last for years. Send your name and address at once so your friends can derive the great benefits coming from the use of **Oxien Pills** and you get the profits as the dish can be sold in a moment for 75c. These Pills are noted for their quick action on Liver, Stomach, Heart, Bowels and special organs of either sex. All ills vanish as by magic if you use these pills. Send quick so as to be sure of a dish before they all go, and get full particulars of our great money making agency proposition where you get hundreds of dollars from a one dollar investment. Address

THE GIANT OXIE PILL DEPT. R, Augusta, Maine.

RHEUMATISM CURED

A trial bottle of JEBB'S DISCOVERY, the positive specific for the cure of rheumatism, will be sent free. Address THE JEBB REMEDY COMPANY, LTD., 205 South Jefferson Street, Battle Creek, Michigan.

CARDS Send 2c. stamp for New SAMPLE BOOK of all the FINEST Styles in Gold Beveled Edge, Hidden Name, Silk Fringe, Envelope and Calling Cards for 1903. We sell GENUINE CARDS, Not Trash. UNION CARD CO., 1136 Columbus Ohio.

$100.00 Cash Prize

WE WILL GIVE $100.00 IN CASH to the person who suggests the most appropriate name for our beautiful new picture, illustrated on this page. Any one ordering one of the pictures together with a year's subcription to the FARM AND FIRESIDE will be allowed to suggest one name. *See offer below.*

No. 52 SIZE 20 BY 30 INCHES IN TEN COLORS AND GOLD

WHAT WILL YOU NAME IT?

No Frame Required

If you will notice the illustration you will see that the artist has displayed more than the usual amount of genius. He has painted a wide gilt border, in exact imitation of a gold frame, so that a *frame is not needed.* It has the full appearance of a handsome gold frame three inches in width. All that is necessary is to fasten the four corners to the wall with pins, and it will have the full effect of a magnificent picture in a heavy gold frame. It is quite proper at the present time to hang works of art without frames. However, this picture can be framed if you so desire.

SUBJECT The subject is a beautiful young girl, with a most pleasing smile, fondling a calf, and the scene is in a meadow-field. The girl is attired in a pretty pink lawn dress with a yoke of loose white material. She wears a rough-straw picture-hat, trimmed with buttercups, poppies and lilies-of-the-valley.

The illustration here can give but a meager idea of the charming beauty of the picture. It must be seen to be appreciated. It is fresh from the artist's brush, and never before offered to the public, so that FARM AND FIRESIDE readers have the first opportunity to secure a copy.

TEN COLORS The colors and tints, the lights and shadows that the artist uses in his make-up of the sky and the clouds and the distant hills, the vale and the stream and the meadow; the rosy-cheeked, smiling, beautiful young girl, dressed in pink, and her pet, create one of the most striking and exquisite color pictures of its kind that we have ever seen. The artist has employed no less than ten of the most delicate and beautiful colors and gold in his creation of this charming work of art.

EVERY HOME SHOULD HAVE IT Our ability to reproduce exactly such a magnificent work of art, that usually costs a fortune to own the original, places it within the reach of all. Every home in the land now has a chance to secure one of the pictures. An opportunity like this should not be neglected, but taken at once. The influence for good that high art has on the minds of both the young and the old should not be overlooked. Make home cheerful, bright and attractive, and thus cultivate that which is wholesome and good.

SIZE The exact size of this magnificent new work of art is 20 by 30 inches, which makes a large and elegant wall-decoration. The cut on this page is greatly reduced in size.

THREE WAYS TO WIN $100.00 CASH

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THE PERSON SUGGESTING THE NAME THE COMMITTEE ADOPTS WILL RECEIVE $100.00 IN CASH

THE CONTEST CLOSES JANUARY 1, 1903.

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"The House That Tells The Truth."

Write for Catalogue of Monte Carlo Coats for Women

15

The Wanamaker Store

Men's Box Calfskin Shoes

at **$2.40** a pair

A shoe in stock, workmanship and finish, that we recommend and sell with a return privilege. By the use of the latest-model Goodyear labor-saving machines the cost of manufacturing this shoe has been reduced to a point heretofore considered impossible. Inferior leather cannot be used in any part of this shoe, as the machines demand good materials upon which to operate, and they cannot slight the work.

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Black Russia Calf, Lace.

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Box Calf, Lace.

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Black Kidskin, Lace.

SOLES—Solid oak-tanned double soles, 7-16 of an inch thick, lock-stitched on a Goodyear Machine, with best Irish Flax Thread, warranted not to rip or open.

UPPERS—The uppers and vamp are cut from plump skins, and are not skimped in any way.

LAST—This last is made for particular men; it is not extreme, but comfortable and shapely.

HEELS—Five-ply oak leather heels, size 2⅞x2½ inches, properly nailed.

HOW TO ORDER
Copy the numbers from the top lining of your best-fitting shoes.

Tell us if they were too wide.
Tell us if they were too narrow.
Tell us if they were too short.
Tell us if they pinched, and where.

LINING—It is lined with a good grade of heavy drill. The inner sole is milled perfectly smooth on the surface, from edge to edge, being free from nails, creases or thread.

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Price $2.40 a pair. Delivered post-paid by us for **$2.65.**

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at **$1.60**

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Black Kid, Lace.

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Black Kid, Button.

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HEELS—Military style.

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Order by above numbers for style desired, giving length and width required. Sizes 2½ to 8, A, B, C and D widths; 3½ to 8 in E width.

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C.L. Hall Agriculture Museum 1903

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COMMENT

COMBINATIONS OF LABOR AND CAPITAL

In a recent speech at Boston Senator Hoar said:

"We are dependent on great combinations of capital to do all things for which individual strength is totally inadequate. We are dependent on them to perform public service and to take great risk which individuals ought not to be asked to take, and cannot take without liability to ruin. Above all, we are dependent on them largely to succeed in the great struggle for the markets and the carrying-trade of the world. . . . So I would curb them, and make the people safe within them. But I would not destroy them. . . . You must remember it is not a five-minute question. It is not a question of six months or of a year. We have got to go as carefully in this matter as if we were performing some capital and vital operation in surgery, or as if we were replacing the foundation of some great building or monument.

"If, as I believe, Congress may rightfully prohibit any corporation or joint-stock company from engaging in interstate or international commerce at all, it can prescribe the conditions on which it can so engage. It can declare that it shall submit its affairs to the inspection of government agents, as banks submit their affairs to government inspection, and as in Massachusetts railroads and savings-banks and insurance companies submit theirs to government inspection. It can require their accounts to be made public.

"I can see no reason why the workman should not combine to make his bargain as to the rate of wages, as to the hours of labor, and as to the comfort and safety of his occupation. I believe the sympathy of all true Americans is on the side of labor and its attempt to better its condition. Unless the American workman shall have good wages and leisure and comfort, shall have books in his home, shall send his children to school, can provide comfortably for his old age, the republic itself will be no longer worth living in. Capital and wealth will in the end take care of themselves.

"But to the elevation of labor, which is but another name for the elevation of citizenship, the whole force and power of the republic should be bent. It is for this that we have schools and churches. It is for this that we have tariffs. It is for this that we have law. And it is for this that the republic must live or bear no life.

"But, on the other hand, the workman has no right to interfere by violence with the freedom of any workman who does not choose to belong to his union. He may, undoubtedly, refuse to work with him. He may, if he please, refuse to associate with him. But he cannot lawfully interfere with his right to make his own bargain or to judge for himself on what terms or under what conditions he will work. The attempt by one workman to buy another, or of an association of workmen to interfere with this liberty, is pure despotism."

MATURE CORN AND "SOFT CORN"

The comparative value of mature corn and "soft corn" is presented in a timely bulletin of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station as follows:

"The chemical analysis shows that the 'soft corn' contains about the same amount of protein and fat as mature corn. The only perceptible difference is that it contains about twenty per cent more water, and in some instances a trifle higher percentage of protein. On a water-dry basis the results are approximately the same. This would indicate that when corn is husked out and dried that, pound for pound, it will contain as much nourishment as fully matured corn.

"The chaffy appearance of the corn is unmistakable evidence that the yield an acre is very much less than it would have been had the corn fully matured. Another point to be considered is that there will be a much larger percentage of cob in comparison to the amount of corn than in former years. Thus corn-and-cob meal will not be as valuable as when fully matured corn has been ground. Our analysis differs from that reported by Professor Snyder, of the Minnesota station, who stated that the cob contained much of the nourishment which was not to be found in the corn itself. We were unable to find any noticeable difference in the chemical composition of the cob of the 'soft corn' and that of the cob of mature corn. From the chemical analysis made here we would be inclined to regard one hundred and twenty bushels of the 'soft corn' in its present state to be equal in feeding value to one hundred bushels of matured corn."

A TESTIMONIAL

As members of the Board of Control of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station we desire to record our feeling of great loss in the death of Prof. J. Fremont Hickman, Agriculturist of the Station. His ability in research work, his great service in helping to place the Ohio station in its present high rank, his unswerving fidelity to its interests and his wide reputation with the masses as a safe authority and guide combined to give inestimable value to his services. A leader in agricultural thought and practice is lost to us.

The death of Professor Hickman fills us with feeling of great personal loss. His character was attractive, and we had been drawn closer to him in our admiration of the manly, Christian spirit that made his life lovable.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Professor Hickman, and yet would we ask them to join with us in expression of joy that so much of value to the world, and to us as individuals, has been given by the life of the one whose memory we desire to honor.

Signed—ALVA AGEE, O. E. BRADFUTE, D. L. SAMPSON, FRIEND WHITTLESEY, D. D. WHITE.

AFFAIRS OF NOTE AND MEN OF MARK

Joseph Jefferson, the veteran of the stage who has been a popular actor before three generations of theater-goers, was born in Philadelphia, February 20, 1829. He came from a race of actors, and is the third of the name. His first appearance on the stage was as a child in "Rolla," when he was about three years of age. This season, three score and ten years later, he is still acting, and even playing the very same "Bob Acres" and "Rip Van Winkle" that began to delight the public some forty years ago. Rip Van Winkle, "one of the most brilliant and beautiful creations of the stage," is a dramatization of primitive folk-lore that came down to us through the ages, and which is closely paralleled by the legend of Wang Chih found in the ancient literature of China.

Theodore Thomas was born at Eseus, Hanover, Germany, October 11, 1835, and his family brought him to New York in 1845. It may be said that his life was consecrated to the art of music in infancy. He received his first instruction from his father, a violinist, and made a successful public appearance at the age of six. At the age of ten this artist and instructor of artists began his marvelous musical career in the United States by playing violin solos at concerts in New York. For more than half a century he has been almost constantly before the American public as musician, conductor, instructor and director, and to him more than to any other artist is due the rapid development of musical taste among the people of this country.

Henry Norman, the distinguished writer and journalist, is a thorough man of the world in the true sense of the term. He was born in England forty-four years ago, was educated partly in France and partly in the United States, was graduated from Harvard, has traveled extensively, especially in Asia, and is the author of important works, including "The Peoples and Politics of the Far East" and "All the Russias." Mr. Norman has been on the editorial staff of the "Pall Mall Gazette," and of the London "Chronicle" also, and is now the editor of a new English magazine, "The World's Work." He became a member of parliament in 1900, and is a Liberal in politics.

Col. William F. Cody was born in Scott County, Iowa, February 26, 1845. He has enjoyed the distinction of being a most remarkable character among two generations. When but eleven years of age on the plains of Kansas he became a hero in his first experience fighting Indians, and in time he became the most famous army scout, guide and plainsman in the West. He served with Kansas cavalrymen during the Civil War, and later as scout and guide in expeditions against the Indians. On account of supplying, under contract, the laborers on the Kansas Pacific Railway with four thousand two hundred and eighty buffaloes in eighteen months he received the title of "Buffalo Bill." To the younger generation "Buffalo Bill" is best known on account of the famous "Wild West" show, which since 1883 has been exhibited with tremendous success throughout the civilized world.

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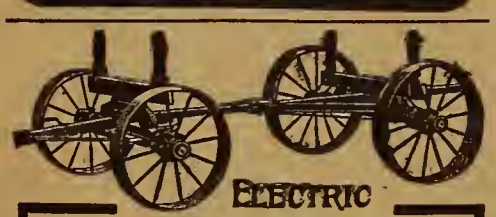

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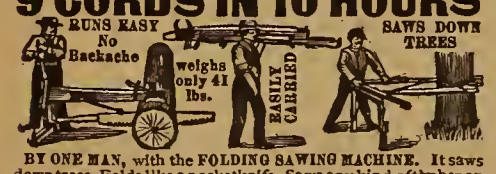

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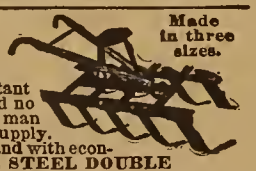

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SALESMEN WANTED in every locality to sell our Oils and Greases to the farming and threshing trade. Good opening for a hustler. Write for particulars. Lincoln Oil Co., Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Greiner Says:

BEES AND HONEY.—During the past summer, and right along up to now, I have had the very choicest white-comb honey, made by my own bees, quite regularly on my table. And how I do enjoy it! I can dispose of one fourth of a pound at a meal myself without effort, but with much satisfaction and pleasure. Yet while thus I am a skilful manipulator of honey—the finished product—and can give it the final finish, I am not an apiarist; that is, a person skilled in the management of bees. I try to be, in a small way, a bee-keeper. In other words, I try to keep three colonies of ordinary black bees (although I would just as gladly have Italians). I like the honey; I like to have the help of the bees in making my fruit-trees fruitful, and for the sake of securing the honey and the fruit I run the slight risk of a member of the family—especially a little one—making an occasional acquaintance with the warm business-end of the insect. For myself I prefer to let the bees alone as much as possible. I put on, or have somebody—a friend not so afraid of bee-stings as I am—put on the surplus cases as they are needed, and take them off.

WINTERING BEES.—The successful wintering of bees has always been the great problem with average bee-keepers, even with our most skilful apiarists. Yet when the colony has a good queen and an ample supply of stored honey the task is comparatively simple. The old plan of leaving the colonies on their summer stands, unprotected from the stinging cold of our Northern or Western winters, is barbarous, ruinous, and wherever practised should call for the interference of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. In their wild state the bees are snugly packed away inside a big, hollow tree in the woods, where the winds are obstructed and broken, and the biting cold tempered by the natural protection of the forest. Average people try to make a colony brave the inclemencies of our winters in a thin-walled hive, with the western gales driving the snow into every opening or crack. How can we expect a colony to outlive such exposure? I now put my colonies in safe winter quarters, and expect to see them come out in good shape in spring, ready to go to work with full vigor the first warm day, and just as soon as a flower is in sight or offering pollen and nectar. I first move the colonies gradually closer together, entrances all toward the east, and finally crowd them together on a platform, four or six inches apart. This platform forms the bottom of a box, which surrounds the three colonies, and gives just room enough for packing four inches of chaff or cut straw all around and on top of the hives, also a slanting roof that sheds water. The cover of each hive is taken off, and the frames covered with a cushion or blanket before the chaff is put over them. This, with the entrances left wholly or partly open, will give the needed chance for ventilation and for the escape of moisture.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.—It is certainly a good idea to interest the pupils in our common district schools in agricultural matters. Efforts have been making on the part of the state, through Cornell University's Horticultural Extension Work, to accomplish this by means of "Nature-studies," pamphlets, letters and circulars. It is doubtful, however, whether this method has proved to be very effective thus far. The "New York Farmer" compares such efforts with others made in Europe as follows:

"While American educational officials are pottering over the question of introducing so-called 'Nature-studies' in our rural schools, the matter is being carried out in other countries in an effective way. For example, in the rural districts of Sweden a garden is attached to every school. Here the children receive practical instruction in the cultivation of plants, berries, flowers, herbs and fruits, and in the management of hotbeds, greenhouses, and so forth. This may not be just what our educational authorities are aiming at, but it certainly is a very thorough, sensible, practical and efficacious way of familiarizing boys and girls with the operations of Nature. The plan might be adopted in the United States with good results, provided the rural-school teachers know enough of these 'Nature-study' things to teach them."

Possibly the Cornell agricultural faculty and the station connected with the institution are doing all that could be expected of them, and it may not be wholly their fault if the results are somewhat meager. Yet it is a fact that I, in company with one hundred and fifty other members of the Niagara County Farmers' Club, having visited and inspected Cornell last summer, came home, like nearly all the rest of them, a sorely disappointed man. Cornell seems to be a somewhat aristocratic institution. A caste spirit appears to be much in evidence, so that the agricultural student is handicapped and in danger of losing all pride in his calling when he sees the high-collared students in the classical-course and engineering departments look down upon him with the ill-concealed feeling of contempt and superiority. I believe in the wisdom or necessity, for best results, of separating the agricultural college entirely from both the old literary and the mechanical and engineering colleges. From every visit I have made at the purely agricultural college and experiment farm at Guelph, Canada, I have come back inspired and enthused, so that I fully agree with Professor Massey, of North Carolina, who says in the "Practical Farmer:" "The Canadians have been wiser than we have been, and at Guelph they have a real college of agriculture, where faculty and students are all devoted to the one line of study and the sciences connected therewith. They have a technical institution devoted entirely to the upbuilding of agriculture. Some day the two lines of study will be separated in this country. . . . We need colleges like Guelph, in Canada, where there is a general enthusiasm for agriculture."

Mr. Grundy Says:

CATALPA POSTS.—In repairing a shed to-day I needed a stake that will last in the ground a long time. After thinking over the matter a little I decided an Osage-orange stake would come nearest to filling the bill of anything I had on hand. In rummaging about the scrap-wood pile for one suited to the purpose I discovered a catalpa stick nearly four inches thick that I cut just ten years ago. For six years it had served as a post in a poultry-yard fence, and when that was torn down four years ago it had been thrown on the scrap-wood pile and had lain there ever since. Examination showed it to be as sound as a dollar all through, and I used it instead of the Osage orange, and at the end of another ten years it will still be as sound as now. The more I see of this wood the higher I value it.

THE NEGLECTED CULTIVATOR.—Passing the corn-field of a neighbor a few days ago I was surprised to see a corn-cultivator standing just where he had finished cultivating that corn about four months ago. He was plowing on the opposite side of the corn-field, and I stopped to lament the hard lot of the farmer with him a few minutes. After we had "lamented" a short time I asked him how he happened to leave his corn-cultivator in the back field so long.

"Well, well," he exclaimed; "don't you know I clean forgot it! I intended to cultivate a little strip there over again, and left the machine there for that purpose. For two weeks we were rushed with haying and other work, and I haven't been in that part of the farm since. I'll get it home to-night."

COAL AND WOOD.—Many farmers are asking if the present high prices asked for coal, both hard and soft, will be maintained. Not all of the present high prices will stand, but I am inclined to believe that higher prices than we have paid heretofore will prevail for some time, probably years. The operators, miners and railroads will keep prices up as long as possible, and we will have to pay them. Farmers who owned woodland made a great mistake in clearing all of it for crops. Very generally such land is rough and hilly and really fit only for pasture, and the steeper hillsides not even fit for that. All the rougher parts of such land should have been kept in wood, and the owners would now be independent of the trusts. The fuel problem is going to be a serious one. The late trouble in the anthracite fields is but the beginning. The wise farmer who has built himself a home that he intends to stay in will begin to plant trees, and waste no time. Plant trees now, and protect the natural forest-trees that may be growing on your farm.

SCORING THE CORN.—At a farmers' institute held in this locality not long ago there was an exhibit of corn and other field, orchard and garden products. The exhibit of corn was scored by the judge, who placed the premiums according to the score-card adopted by the Corn Breeders' Association. The judge was a young student of the state agricultural college, a young man who was thoroughly conversant with the work he had to do, and had convincing reasons for everything he did.

While he was at work, a man who had watched him several minutes tapped me on the shoulder, and said, "What's that young fellow doin'?"

"Scoring the corn," I replied.

"What's that for?"

"To ascertain which is the best sample."

"Who is he?"

"A student from the agricultural college, sent here for that purpose."

"Oh, he's one o' them 'book' farmers, is he? Well, what he knows about corn you can put in your eye. Why didn't you have a real farmer as knows something about corn to fix the premium business? Now, I can tell you in about two minutes which is the best sample o' corn in the whole lot. I've raised corn forty year, an' I know just what corn ought to be. I can pick out the best samples in less'n two minutes!"

I told him to look the lot over and tell me which he thought the best. In a short time he pointed out what he termed "the best lot in the house by a mile." It was a large-eared variety, with short, stubby grains and an immense cob. I asked a grain-dealer and a leading cattle-feeder what they thought of it, and both pronounced it one of the poorest lots in the exhibit. Some men can follow a business forty years and then know very little about it. That some farmers who attended the institute believed the corn judge understood his business was shown when the exhibits were put up at auction and most of the samples sold at ten and fifteen cents a bunch, while the first-prize lot of twenty ears brought nearly two dollars. It was a fine lot of a well-known variety.

THE CHOICEST SPECIMENS.—Most of the farm, garden and orchard products exhibited at this institute were brought in by people who never had exhibited such things before, and it was remarkable how many of them seemed to think that the largest specimens they grew were the best. A few had participated in such contests before, and instead of selecting the largest specimens they made up their exhibits from nice, smooth, medium-sized specimens, such as are attractive to the eye and the cook and can be prepared for cooking with the least waste, and naturally they carried off all the premiums. Said the judge of the vegetable exhibit, "I consider this a fine object-lesson to the farmers in this locality. They will bring in a load of large, rough potatoes and demand the highest price for them, and fly into a rage when we give a higher price for a load of medium-sized, smooth potatoes. In all vegetables consumers want medium size and good quality. They want such as can be prepared for cooking without waste, and in all roots and tubers this means smoothness."

All Over the Farm

POINTERS IN POTATO CULTURE

POTATO DISEASES.—It is the history of potato-growing that diseases of the plant increase in any section as the industry grows older. The "early" blight has done much to reduce yields in the southern half of the potato belt of the Northern states. It has spread further north in recent years, but requires a high temperature for its development. It is the usual cause of the premature dying of the vines in hot, showery weather, and for many years was not recognized by the grower as a germ-disease. I thought for a time that it would drive potato-production to our northernmost states, where the atmospheric conditions do not favor this disease; but the last few years indicate that these Northern regions have a worse disease in the "late" blight, which requires a cool temperature, and which rarely develops in the sections most infected by the early blight. This late blight multiplies its germ at a prodigious rate in cool, wet weather, and is usually followed by rot of the tubers in the hill, while the early blight does not cause rot. Last year, and again this year, New York State has lost a big percentage of her crop by the late blight. When the mercury stands in the "seventies," and the weather remains wet for a considerable time, this blight brings a loss that is more disheartening than is the damage done by the early blight, which only cripples the yield and leaves to the grower whatever has been produced before the disease has killed the vines. It now appears probable that the percentage of the potato crop produced by our most Northern states, adapted as their soil is to the crop, will not increase, and that sections south of them will continue to produce their present share of the crop.

The enthusiast sees in spraying the safeguard of the crop for these Northern sections. It might be made so, but it is idle to expect the adoption of the practice of thorough spraying for all the present acreage, or for half of it, in this generation. We learn too slowly for that. The thoroughness of the required sprayings with Bordeaux mixture will not be given by thousands of the present growers, and it would seem that for a term of years the careful man who does his work right may look forward to reasonable profit from this crop. This does not mean that he should expect high prices all the time, because there will be years in which disease will not develop, and all growers will be successful; but the prevalence of the blights will tend to keep the acreage within bounds, and some years production will be small.

South of the area affected with the late blight, that causes rot, the grower should be on his guard in selecting varieties. Their degree of resistance to the early blight varies wonderfully. We now have a number of varieties that are little infected when other varieties are giving down under its attack. There is no such thing as a variety proof against the early blight, but there are those that withstand it through many days of hot, showery weather, and may remain free from injury until a change of weather causes the danger to pass. This power of resistance to early blight is a prime requisite in selecting a variety, but in resistance to the late blight, that is followed by rot, such a variety may not be superior to any other.

In the fight against the early blight, after selecting a resistant variety, another help is a fertile soil. Growth should be pushed. One or two thorough sprayings with the copper solution is entirely feasible for all growers, and should be given. It is feasible, because the one or two applications can be made before the vines of early planted potatoes fill the middles, keeping the expense down to a minimum, and it should be given to help maintain the vigor of the plants, warding off the flea-beetles, and destroying any unseen fungi that may be reducing the vitality of the plants. The authorities admonish us to continue the sprayings. Probably we should do so, but I know that very many will not do so; and it is the experience of some careful growers that if the variety and soil are right, and the flea-beetles do no damage, the early blight may not do serious injury to the crop sufficiently often to justify the annual expense of repeated sprayings throughout the season. On this point I am not sure, but the care that I have recommended is not more than all growers may exercise every year.

In respect to the late blight of the northernmost states, a rich soil and great vigor of the plants form no safeguard against attack. Sometimes heavy fertilization appears to invite attack. Thorough drainage of the land, sound seed and repeated sprayings with the copper solution are the only hope in cool, wet seasons.

CARE OF SEED-POTATOES.—Having selected seed-potatoes that are right in every way, their winter care is important. The best plants are gotten from the first sprouts, and the best are none too good for the man who wants to win. I do not like a cellar for storage, nor do I like early burying outdoors. If the late fall or early winter is warm, potatoes that are covered with earth at the first approach of cool weather will get too warm, and start sprouts. When they are left outdoors, covered with straw, until the weather becomes cold there is danger that the seed will be chilled before protection is given, especially when a rain precedes the cold wave. The best way is to store the seed in boxes in a cellar as soon as cold weather approaches, and to cover with straw the ground reserved for burying. After one hard freeze, remove the straw when the temperature is above the freezing-point, take the potatoes from the cellar, pour them into a very narrow rick on the ground that was protected from freezing by the straw, and then cover with fresh straw and with earth. All the heat will go out of the potatoes by this exposure, and they will remain cool. When the earth covering is frozen through to the thick straw covering, put on another cover of straw manure or of corn fodder, to keep the frost in the ground. This gives a sort of cold storage that will keep seed until the ground is ready for planting in the spring. The extra labor is not a big item, and the difference between unsprouted and badly sprouted seed amounts to many dollars an acre in the crop. DAVID.

LANDOWNER AND RENTER

I am seventy years of age, and have been both renter and owner of land. The greatest curse, according to my view and experience, is the short-term lease. If I were a large landowner I would adopt this plan: I would not rent or lease a farm for a less term than five years, with the understanding that it would be a continuous lease if the renter did his part. That would give the renter encouragement to do his best, for it would be to his own as well as the landlord's advantage to do his best. The renter under this plan would see to it that all the manure would be saved and applied to the land; there would be no waste of anything; the fences and buildings would be looked after and kept in good repair, and there would be neither the skinning of the land or landowner.

A person with one eye can tell when passing a farm whether there is a long-lease man on the farm or a one-year man. When I pass a farm where the fences and buildings look like a cyclone had struck them some years ago, I say to myself, "There is the one-year-lease farm." When I pass a farm with all fences in good shape, all the buildings shining with fresh paint, machinery all housed, with fine trees and rose-bushes, lawn kept mowed smooth, and hear an organ or piano, then I say, "There is either an up-to-date landlord or a long-lease renter on this farm."

Some will say it would never do to lease a farm for so long a time; suppose the renter was a poor farmer and manager, just think what a loss it would be. Just so; but there are many good, young farmers who are keeping a lookout for any and every chance of the kind of which I speak. Before one of these chronic one-year lessees could wake up and make up his mind about tackling a five-year lease, one of those hustlers would take it. M. H. W.

QUEEN OF FARM GRAINS

If corn is king of all farm products, oats surely is queen. Yet how little do we hear about this splendid crop. Very rarely do we hear oats spoken of in connection with the great speculations "on 'change." Seldom does any one refer to this grain in the enthusiastic terms with which he refers to wheat or corn; and still oats forms the staple of food on the farms of this country more certainly than does any other crop in the world, unless it may be the king of crops itself. The latest figures I have at command places the crop at eight hundred and nine million one hundred and twenty-six thousand bushels in the United States for the year 1900. Much of this goes for the sustenance of horses and hens, but more and more every year this grand grain is coming into use as an article of diet for human beings. It is now ground, and put up most tastefully for the market, and is used by thousands who a few years ago knew nothing about its virtues—and this, too, not by invalids, but by all who do not wish to become such.

This being true, why should we not make the growing of oats more a specialty? It is now done very loosely. The grain is worthy of the same care in harvesting that is bestowed upon corn or wheat, and yet how rarely does it receive that attention. After it has been cut and threshed it is often thrown into the meanest of bins, where rats and mice and still more filthy animals may run over it. "Nothing but oats," and yet it is one of the finest grains that can be raised on our farms. I make a plea for oats. Shall we not give it the very best care we can from springtime until harvest?

E. L. VINCENT.

WHAT TO DO WITH STONES

On many farms of this country the problem presented by the common field-stones is one of the most pressing. They are everywhere. The plow turns them up every time the land is plowed, and we often allow them to remain there year after year, to the destruction of our farm-tools and the loss of our own patience. Is there any better way of disposing of these troublesome objects? On my farm I have been in the habit, whenever I plow, of throwing the stones up into small heaps. I make it a practice to get out every single one which lies near enough to the surface to come into contact with the plow. Then I go out with a stone-boat, and draw these stones away. Nor do I stop at the nearest fence-corner, as was the custom a few years ago. And what a temptation there is to do that! It is a shiftless practice. The corners of the fences ought to be as clean as the yard about the house. I haul these stones straight past the fence-corners, and dump them in heaps where they will be easy of access in case I wish to build a wall. If no better place presents itself, I pile them up in a neat heap in the field, against the time when they will be needed for building or other like purposes. Recently, after a heavy flood, which washed out the highway adjoining my farm, a great pile thus came into play most effectively. Then, too, drains will utilize many of the loose stones. Or we may build good stone walls, although these have been declared a nuisance by most neat farmers. Anyway, get the stones off the fields. Life is too short and too precious to be spent working around and over them. E. L. VINCENT.

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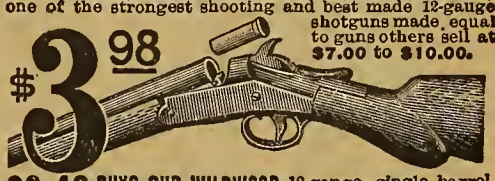
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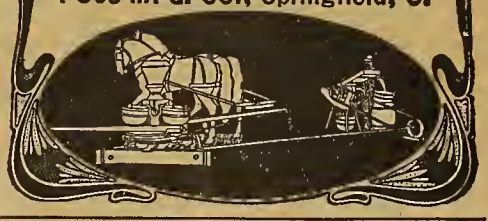

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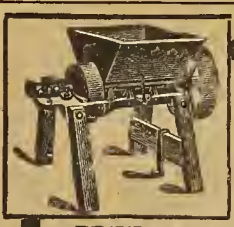
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Gardening

By T. GREINER

THE "DEWEY" NOZZLE is far simpler than the Vermorel, and works about as well. I use it for almost everything that I spray.

HIRED HELP is the great problem that bothers us in these parts. Undoubtedly there are places where there is a surplus of good and willing help. Here is a decided scarcity. The manufacturing establishments at Niagara Falls take everything. I shall have to quit farming, and confine myself to home gardening on a moderate scale.

THE SLIP.—With the unprecedentedly large winter-apple crop it has finally turned out to be the "slip betwixt cup and lip." We thought we had it, but we haven't. My own crop is not more than one fourth or one third of what it was in 1900. The same proportion seems to hold good in the apple orchards all around me. Early apples are plentiful, but only Oldenburg and Astrachan seem to be absolutely scab-proof.

MAGNIFICENT ONION CROP.—The past season has been the best for onions in a long time. I have Gibraltar onions weighing over one and one half pounds apiece, and Prizetakers considerably over one pound, with scarcely a small onion in the lot. The yield approaches the rate of fifteen hundred bushels an acre. The bulbs are selling rapidly at seventy-five cents a bushel. I believe I could easily have them peddled out to private families at one dollar a bushel. Altogether a profitable crop, I am sure.

THE NEW CELERY CULTURE.—I do not practise the "new celery culture" any more, at least not to any great extent, and this simply because I find it much easier and much surer of desired results to set a single row of plants in some rich spot in the garden, possibly where early radishes have already been grown the same season, and blanch the plants by means of wide boards, than to mass a whole lot of plants together in a small space, and to try to make them produce large stalks by heavy applications of plant-food and water. Next year I may have hydrants in the garden, and a full supply of Niagara-River water, and in that case I will again experiment with the "new celery culture."

RHUBARB FOR PROFIT.—Some time ago I remarked that in a small way I could make at the rate of five hundred dollars an acre from rhubarb. A Pennsylvania reader writes me that he almost trebled that rate of income, and a good share of his crop was wholesaled, besides. Wherever there is a brisk demand for rhubarb in spring there is a chance for earning quite a little pin or pocket money for man, woman or boy. Plants may be taken up now, divided, and reset. The ground should be, and must be, made extremely rich. That is the whole secret of success. Plant four feet apart each way. Pile on the manure! Weeds are easily kept down; in fact, the heavy growth in suitable soil will choke them out.

THE TABLE-BEETS.—I used to plant Early Egyptian. This is very early, I believe the earliest of this class, and its quality is fair enough when it is still young. It soon gets tough and woody, however. Its shape is not the most desirable, either, being flat, like a flat turnip. I do not plant it any more, but prefer the Eclipse, which has a better shape and keeps in good condition for table use for a long time. But there are others suitable for both home and market, such as Crimson Globe, which, as the name indicates, is of roundish form; Market Gardeners', etc. Rochester is also a good early beet. I would like to hear from our readers about the varieties they plant, and how they like them.

BEETS AFTER STRAWBERRIES.—I have a good supply of nice and tender beets grown on the old strawberry-patch, also a fine crop of flat turnips. The land was plowed soon after the last strawberries were picked, and the seed sown in the usual way. The beets are now of fair size for table use, and much preferable for that purpose to the beets from the spring-sown rows. I make it a practice to thin the plants when gathering for the table, finally leaving enough just at the right distance, say eight inches apart, to make a big crop to be harvested late in the season for cattle or poultry food. I am now using all I want from the late-planted (old strawberry) patch, and will have plenty left to store for winter use.

VARIETIES.—Often I am asked about the selection of varieties. In many lines I can make only qualified recommendations. Varieties often behave differently on different soils in different localities and under different climatic conditions. What proves the very best in one garden may be without value in another. The consequence is that we have to make trials and tests on our own soil to see which variety best suits our own treatment and the conditions we have to offer. It is quite a task which this variety-testing imposes upon every gardener, but it is interesting, instructive, and often very profitable. After having planted a number of varieties, be sure to keep watch of them, see that the labels remain, and that your observations are put in the note-book. Don't trust too much to memory. You may lose the results of your labors by carelessness in these respects.

BLANCHING CELERY.—The so-called "self-blanching" celeries, while they do not blanch properly for table use or sale without the grower's assistance and some manipulation, are blanched beautifully with comparatively little effort. The varieties grown for summer and early fall celery are chiefly White Plume and Golden Self-Blanching. The latter is much more dwarfish than the former, but takes the lead in market, crowding the other almost completely out of public favor. The blanching is done mostly with boards. I often use any kind of old boards I can get, sometimes boards not over eight inches wide. When narrow boards are used the plants remain short, possibly too short to bring full price in market. I now prefer, and try to secure, rather wide boards for the purpose of blanching celery, even if the plants are as yet short and will hardly reach above the upper edge of the boards. A foot in width is about right for blanching-boards, and will give nice, tall, well-blanched stalks. In good growing weather celery can be blanched in two weeks' time from the adjustment of the boards.

DOUBLE CROPPING.—There is a limit to success in double cropping. Sometimes I practise sowing flat-turnip seed in the corn-field at the last cultivation. This is done with the expectation that the turnips will get most of their growth after the corn is cut, and so it is more of growing one crop close after the other than a double cropping, with two crops growing about at the same time. I find that corn wants about the whole ground in order to do its best. I planted early peas and sweet-corn in the same rows last spring, and in summer a late patch of Mexican sweet-corn, following after strawberries. In part of the patch a row of turnips (flat) was also drilled in with the corn, and a row between the corn-rows. The corn planted with the peas has not done very well, although the peas have long since matured. The corn planted alone, without turnips, is doing nicely, and if a killing frost stays off awhile longer I shall have plenty of nice Mexican sweet-corn to use. The corn planted in the same rows with turnips, and the turnips between the rows, is actually doing nothing. It is yellow and starved, although the ground is rich. The turnips, which have done well, appear to have taken the nourishment away from the corn.

Fruit-Growing

By S. B. GREEN

CATALPA-WORM.—H. T. T., Carleton, Ohio. I think that the catalpa-worm, of which you inclose a specimen, can be easily destroyed by spraying the foliage of the trees with Paris green in water at the rate of one pound to one hundred and fifty gallons of water, to which add one pound of quicklime.

PEACH-CURCULIO.—J. W. K., Atlanta, Ga. Your peaches are probably infested with the peach-curculio, the best remedy for which is jarring the trees and collecting the beetles, the same as in the case of plum-curculio. I would like for you to send a sample of the diseased fruit.

OYSTER-SHELL BARK-LOUSE.—A. C. G., Sabbath Rest, Pa. The specimen which you inclosed is badly infested with what is known as the oyster-shell bark-louse. I think the simplest remedy will be to cover the infested portions with a good, thick coat of lime whitewash. Use the best quality of white lime, and apply with a spray-pump or brush. In the spring, when the lime comes off, the scales will probably come off at the same time.

GINGKO-TREE.—W. H. K., Yonkers, N. Y. The triangular-shaped foliage which you inclosed is that from the Gingko-tree, botanically "Salisburia adiantifolia." It is what is known as the broad-leaved conifer, it being nearly related to the pines and spruces. It is a very pretty tree, with spreading branches, and is conspicuous by reason of the peculiar shape of the tree and foliage. It is a native of Japan, and is grown there extensively. It has fruited in Washington, D. C., and the seed is as large as a plum-pit, and contains an edible meat. It is hardy in New York.

SOIL FOR STRAWBERRIES.—J. H. W., Unadilla, Neb. Soil for strawberries should be prepared very thoroughly, much as for corn. When the land is in first-class shape for corn it is all right for strawberries. If the soil is not in first-class condition some manure should be applied. You cannot have the land too rich for this fruit. It is generally best to plant strawberries early in the spring, but when the ground is moist in autumn, as it is in many sections this year, I often plant at this season, so as to help along the spring work. When I do this I am particular to mulch heavily on the approach of winter.

BLACK ROT.—C. C. C., Baltimore, Md. I think that your grapes are probably infested with the disease commonly known as black rot, which causes the fruit to turn black, shrivel up and to remain on the vines until autumn. I think that it is now too late to apply Bordeaux mixture to any advantage. In order to use this material successfully its application should begin as soon as the blossoms have fallen, and the fruit should be kept covered with it by frequent applications, say once in two or three weeks. The formula that is most commonly used for the Bordeaux mixture is five pounds of quicklime, five pounds of sulphate of copper and fifty gallons of fresh water.

BORERS.—W. H. S., Alma, Ohio. I think that if your trees are badly infested with the borers that make a small round hole in the trunk, and you only have a few trees that are badly infested, the safest thing for you to do is to dig and burn them, to prevent the spreading of the pest; but if the trees are large and very valuable I would suggest that you send me a sample of the insect and injury done to the trees, and then I will advise you more fully. Whitewashing could do no harm; but I doubt if it would do much good in this case, as a thin coat of whitewash over the holes would hardly prevent the mature borers from coming out. The chances are that the bark is already dead, and that the trees are being kept alive by means of the sapwood only.

TIME TO PLANT SHADE-TREES.—I. S., Belfast, Ohio. Autumn planting of shade-trees is all right for the hardiest kinds, provided the soil is moist. The more tender kinds and evergreens should generally be planted in spring. The work should be done as soon after the leaves fall as may be. If it is deferred until the approach of winter it may be safely done, but when done so late it often happens that the soil is not packed well about the roots, and as a consequence the trees do not go through the winter in good shape. If the soil is dry in autumn, I think as a rule it is best to defer planting until spring, unless the trees are very heavily watered soon after planting. Set them out perhaps three inches deeper than they grew in the nursery, and put fine black loam next to the roots. Manure or similar material is apt to make trouble when used about the roots of trees at planting-time, but it may be safely used after the roots have been well covered with soil, when the ground may be covered three or four inches deep with stable manure, over which it is a good plan to put a few inches of loam.

PEACH, PLUM AND PEAR STOCKS—VARIETIES OF FRUIT FOR VIRGINIA—CATALPA-GROWING—MIMOSA.—R. W. H., Centralia, Va. The peaches may be budded upon plums, or plums upon peaches. It is generally best, however, to use peach stocks for peaches and plum stocks for plums. On moist land, which is rather too wet for peaches, they can even be grown to best advantage on plum roots. Stocks for either peaches or plums may be any of the seedling kinds, but it is best to have them of the same species. The common Blue Damson or Prune plums will make fairly good stocks for most of the cultivated plums grown in your section. Peaches generally do best upon seedlings of the cling varieties, and it is customary to obtain them from Tennessee or Kentucky, where the peach grows wild and is particularly healthy.——The best varieties of plums for table use are Columbia, German Prune. The best varieties for general marketing are Abundance, Burbank, Damson, Red June. The best varieties of pears for table use are Seckle, Lawrence, Winter Nelis. The best varieties of peaches for table use are Alexander, Early Crawford, Stump, Late Crawford. The best varieties for marketing are Alexander, Elberta, Early Crawford, Late Crawford. The Bartlett pear generally does best when grown as a standard. The Kelsey plum is one of the Japanese kinds, and does exceedingly well in some sections, but is not hardy enough for Northern states. The Le Conte and Keiffer pears make good stocks, and so do other seedlings of similar kinds. These trees are also grown to some extent from cuttings for this purpose. Seedlings of the Bartlett and similar pears you will find very difficult to raise. They make very good stocks, however, when they prove vigorous enough. The seed of these trees should be mixed with sand, and be buried in the ground outdoors until spring, when they should be sown early in sandy loam.——Catalpa-trees are propagated by the seed. The seed can be obtained from most of the large seed-dealers, or enough can generally be found in sections where the trees grow. The pods, which are long and slender, hang on the trees late in the season, and may be gathered at any time after the leaves fall. They should be kept in the pods until spring, then sown early.——I do not know what mimosa you refer to. The mimosa-tree is a sort of locust, and the wood of some of them is very hard and durable. If you wish further information in regard to it please send me a sample of the leaves and seed-pod. The seed of the locust and the mimosa generally germinate very slowly, and often only a small portion will start the first year if planted in the ordinary way. I find that it is generally best to scald the seed before planting. For this purpose the seed should be put into a vessel of some sort, and then covered with hot water, say at a temperature of about one hundred and thirty degrees. This will cause the seed to swell, and after this treatment they will generally grow quickly when sown.

In the Field

AT THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION CONGRESS

BY D. W. WORKING

THE Tenth National Congress met on October 6, 1902, under very favorable circumstances. The passage of the reclamation act had aroused a new interest in irrigation and the arid West. People who had opposed the storage of flood and other waste waters by the national government had accepted the inevitable, and had come to believe that there must be something in the movement that was able to win favorable action from an unwilling Congress. People who have long believed in the ultimate reclamation of large areas of land now barren had been awakened to the fact that what seemed to be a problem for the distant future had suddenly become one of the great problems of the present. Others were interested.

Throughout the West (as elsewhere) there are people who believe that the great things which the national government is to do must have a beginning somewhere, and that such beginning might as well be made in their particular neighborhood. The reader will get the idea. If the government authorities can be induced to build the first reservoir near my friend's farm, or even in his county, the benefits of national aid will be immediate and appreciable. Great sums of money will be spent in the community, large areas of land will be brought "under ditch," hundreds of new farms will be opened, and the desert will be made to blossom under his very eyes. Why shall he not advocate the construction of his reservoir? Is he not to be excused if he magnifies the local interest and loses sight of the fact that the general good will be promoted by beginning the work in some other county or state where the conditions are more favorable?

My friend and his friends were at the Congress with blue-prints and literature to illustrate and prove the importance of their contentions. They prepared a very plausible resolution, which was committed to the tender mercies of the committee on resolutions. But the tender mercies of that committee were cruel. Only general measures were deemed worthy of indorsement; there were too many particular interests clamoring for recognition. How could a committee composed of twenty-five men, from as many states, agree to have the first reservoir built in the twenty-fifth man's state? It is true that in a multitude of counselors there is wisdom. Often, however, it is the wisdom whose other name is conservatism. The committee failed to approve some things that were wiser than those they indorsed. But that is another story—to be told later.

The president of the Congress was Thomas F. Walsh, the millionaire mine-owner, whose mines are in Colorado and whose home is in Washington. After introducing the governor of Colorado, the mayor of Colorado Springs, the president of the local chamber of commerce and the editor of the chief paper of the city, all of whom delivered addresses of welcome, Mr. Walsh read his annual address, having chosen as his theme "The Humanitarian Aspect of National Irrigation." The subject was not hackneyed; it gave the speaker a chance to discuss irrigation in its larger meanings. Of course, it allowed him to boast of the progress and the possibilities of the West, and to speak of the services of those whose labors had resulted in the passage of the act of Congress which provides for the reclamation of arid lands by the storage of the waste waters of the Great West.

Getting down to the heart of his subject, Mr. Walsh said, "It is not the dream of empire, which may come to a great nation with the conquest of a territory wherein a hundred million will some time dwell, which appeals to my imagination. But it is the dream of home and independence which will come to many a struggling family with the announcement that one more fair valley of arid America has been thrown open to settlement at the actual cost of reclamation. . . . A new vista opens before thousands of families. Opportunity comes with beckoning finger. It points the way to a new Land of Promise. Hope chases anxiety from a thousand faces, and a new enthusiasm for home and independence drives apprehension from a thousand hearts. This is to me the inspiring and uplifting aspect of national irrigation. True, we are to have millions of people living where few have lived before. We are to see a vast increase in national wealth. But all this is merely incidental to the human aspect of the matter, which is the making of homes for the homeless, and the giving of social and industrial independence to those now dependent on the enterprise of others. Let us take care of the family, and the nation will take care of itself."

Mr. Walsh was not the only dreamer in the convention, not the only one who valued the man above the acres that are to be reclaimed for his use. President Slocum, of Colorado College, referring to the difficulties of the problem of conquering the deserts, said, "We smite the rocks to get gold, we lift our trains over the rugged mountains, and we carry water out over the arid lands and develop them. It is in overcoming such difficulties that the great men of the republic are made. The making of citizenship at its best is always done where the greatest problems have to be solved. The mastering of difficulties is the making of men."

No one overestimated the difficulties which must be met and mastered before any great extent of the arid country can be brought under irrigation and cultivation, though it seemed that nearly every speaker had too optimistic a view of the possible developments of the next few years. The reclamation fund is said to contain from six to eight million dollars; and Congressman Shafroth, of Colorado, estimated its annual increase at three million dollars. The census estimate of the irrigated area of Colorado is 1,611,271 acres. The cost of the main canals and ditches which supply water to this land is estimated by the same authority at $11,568,137, or $7.21 an irrigated acre. But there are a great many expensive reservoirs in Colorado, and their cost does not seem to be included in the census estimate. It would not seem to be a very wild guess, therefore, to put the cost of irrigation-works at ten dollars for each acre actually irrigated.

It is generally supposed that the less costly work of irrigation-development has already been done, leaving the more expensive work for the future. Supposing, then, that it will cost ten dollars for reservoirs and ditches for each acre of land which the government will be able to reclaim, is it likely that three million dollars a year will be so wisely spent that it will result in the reclamation of more than three hundred thousand acres a year? Such a rate of increase will hardly satisfy the promoters who talk so enthusiastically and glibly about the millions of acres that are to be brought under irrigation and support millions of people. Of course, private enterprise will not sit and wait for the slow process of government reclamation of lands by the construction of reservoirs; and private enterprise during the last census period nearly, or quite, doubled the irrigated area of the United States.

Ex-Senator Carey, of Wyoming, president of the Irrigation Congress four or five years ago, was one of the strong men in its latest convention. Mr. Carey during his term in the Senate secured the passage of what is known as the Carey or Desert Land Act, the first national legislation looking to the reclamation of the arid lands. This act has been more or less of a failure, although it has been fitly characterized as "the beginning of a rational arid-land system." Mr. Carey

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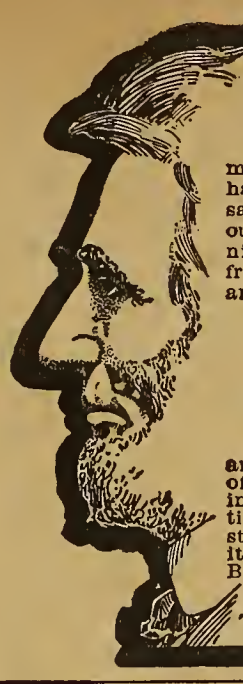

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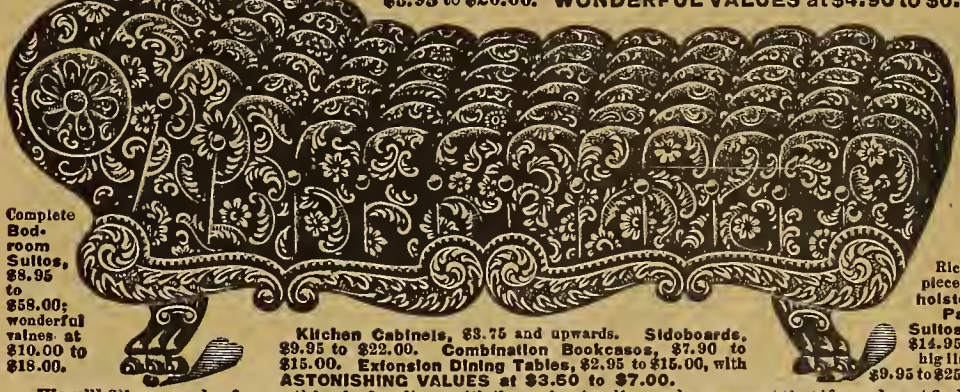

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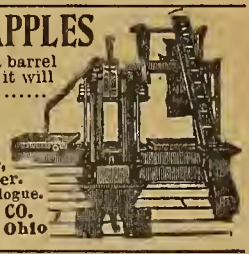

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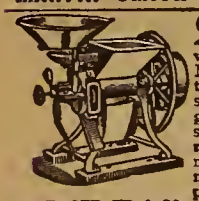

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Live Stock and Dairy

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It was on the farm of C. M. Peck, in Onondaga County, New York, that I saw alfalfa growing in very shallow soil. I saw places in his fields where there was not over two or three inches of soil on top of the limestone rock. There the alfalfa had lived for several years, and made considerable growth. Mr. Peck was growing alfalfa on a field that had received no manure or fertilizer of any kind for several years, and although the plants were thin in places, he was still getting very good crops.

Mr. Peck has only a small farm, on which he keeps a small herd of grade Guernseys, but he feeds them on alfalfa hay, ensilage, or corn stover, oat and pea hay, and oat and pea meal, all grown on the farm, and he is making a very good income from his dairy. He and other dairymen in his vicinity are demonstrating the fact that the farm can be made to produce all the dairy-cow needs, and that small farms which can be worked on the intensive plan—growing corn and alfalfa in a way to get sufficient on one acre to keep one cow for a year, giving the cows the run of a small pasture, making the cows eat it down quite close, and supplementing oats and peas with alfalfa, or green corn fodder when needed—give larger profits. It is better dairy-farming than the plan we see so often practised in some parts of our state, where land is cheaper—that is, mowing old timothy meadows, giving the cows the run of a large pasture, on which the cows pick out the best part, so it grows up to weeds, and when this dries up in the fall, buying grain to keep up the flow of milk, and then feeding a liberal grain ration all winter to balance up the timothy hay.

These dairymen in the Onondaga Valley are farming on high-priced land, much of it being worth from fifty dollars to one hundred dollars an acre. The most of them can afford to own only small farms, and they could not make a living except by this more intensive plan of dairy-farming. They keep only small herds, and they are obliged to grow about all the cows eat on their farms. If they purchased grain to the amount of eight dollars or ten dollars a cow they could not live. That they fully realize this is shown by the remark which one dairyman made. He said "the farmers in his locality would starve without the alfalfa-plant."

Some will say that these farmers have the limestone soil, which is especially suited to the needs of the clover family, therefore they can grow alfalfa more easily than farmers who do not have this soil. This is partly true. Nature has placed lime in their soil, which seems to make it congenial to the alfalfa-plant, in preventing it from becoming acid, and in making a natural drainage. What Nature has done for these farmers, other farmers can do for themselves on many of the farms in the state. They can drain their land when necessary, and they can sweeten their soils with lime or ashes. W. H. Jenkins.

HOMELY HORSE NOTES

A good poultice for a bruise or sore is made from ground flaxseed, ground slippery-elm and new milk, equal parts.

Make the bridle fit. It is grievously wrong to torture a horse with a head-stall and bit that cannot be worn with a degree of comfort. If the head and shoulders of a draft-animal are kept reasonably comfortable the work can be done with less strain.

Horses that are given water with regularity fatten most readily. They can be taught to take water before breakfast, and this light drink seems to be worth a great deal to them. In an effort to put flesh upon an animal the water is as big a factor as the grain.

Horses accustomed to work side by side should not be given other mates except when absolutely necessary. They work with most ease when hooked up with each other. Acquaintance and habit affect horses as they do human beings; and indeed habit is even stronger with the lower animals, being their chief guide in all their work.

A collar should fit snugly, and when it has been fitted by use to the shoulders of a horse it should not be used temporarily on another horse. Such use changes its shape. The hames have much to do in making the fit. When the collar is new soak it in water, if necessary, and draw it up close to the neck with the hames. More collars are worn too wide than too narrow.

For sprains and bruises there is no better home remedy than strong vinegar and salt, brought to the boiling-point, and applied as hot as the animal will permit. The application should be preceded by one of hot water with cloths. Have the cloths bound around or upon the injured place, steaming it thoroughly. The use of a stiff brush dipped into hot water is good. After drying the hair, apply the hot vinegar, rubbing thoroughly into the skin, or applying with cloths to get the full benefit of the steam.

Colts of the heavy draft-breeds are put into hard work oftentimes too soon merely because they are large and have the appearance of strength. The heavy bone is soft, and the muscles are not closely knit. The three-year-old can do a lot of work without injury, but it must be work that demands no severe straining. It is with even more difficulty that the four-year-old is kept in good condition when worked continuously. Light work, demanding no straining, is all that can be done safely by the heavy, loose-jointed horse until it is five years old. If it pays its way during these two years it does enough, and the profit will come from having a sound draft-animal when it begins to reach maturity. David.

TWO PIG-PEN PICTURES

The first has for its setting a warmly sheathed and sided structure, tight-roofed, tight-floored, sufficiently roomy, and set on a solid wall of stone, brick or other lasting material, on a site naturally or artificially well drained. Ventilation is provided in cold weather by an air-shaft entering at the opposite side from the sleeping-nest, with an outflow in the roof. The pen's furnishing consists of a snug sleeping-compartment, elevated a few inches above the main floor, and so partitioned as to hold the bedding from scattering about the pen. The floor has a slight degree of slant for drainage, away from the bed and trough. The latter is metal or smooth, hard wood, so arranged as to extend broadside sufficiently far into the alleyway to allow of feeding from the outside. A hinged guard-board, or partition, allows entrance of the pigs' heads to the trough only, it being adjustable to their growth, and also by means of the hinged fastening allows of the easy removal of the trough for cleaning. The pen is carefully cleaned each day, and frequently rinsed out.

During the warm season a grass run is provided, and a plank bath-tub, or wallow, filled with clean water and "clean" dirt, as a cooler and fly-protector. The central, speaking figures of this pen-picture on a frosty day is a trio or quartet of well-rounded, healthy porkers, almost lost in their bed of clean straw, a chorus of muffled, contented grunts giving evidence of their thrift.

The companion-piece of the first-described picture is, unfortunately, not so rare. This scene shows the pen squatted on low, undrained ground, surrounded

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Live Stock and Dairy

by a quagmire of mud and filth. The excuses for siding and roof are sieve-like, inviting the elements. The floor allows of liquids and solids leaching through until underlaid by a reeking lake of filth. The bedding, when provided, is strewn about the pen unconfined, it, like its occupants, being all of a complexion—wet, soiled and malodorous. The trough, like the bedding, is unconfined and unprotected, and readily admits of a part or the whole of the animals' feet, as well as their heads.

This latter pen-picture is not difficult to locate, since every breeze heralds its location to travelers by its wealth of scent to his nostrils and a chorus of squeals from the uncomfortable occupants. B. F. W. THORPE.

AN UP-TO-DATE DAIRY-BARN

One of the most complete dairy-barns in Ohio is that of John and Frank Kelley, of Clinton County, the well-known breeders of Jersey cattle, Poland China hogs and Shetland ponies. The Kelley Brothers are business men and farmers, and they endeavor to conduct their farm on business principles. The barn was erected in 1901, but the finishing-touches were not completed until the present season.

Fig. 1 shows the basement-plan, which gives in detail its arrangement. The barn complete is thirty-six feet wide and one hundred and eighty-eight feet long.

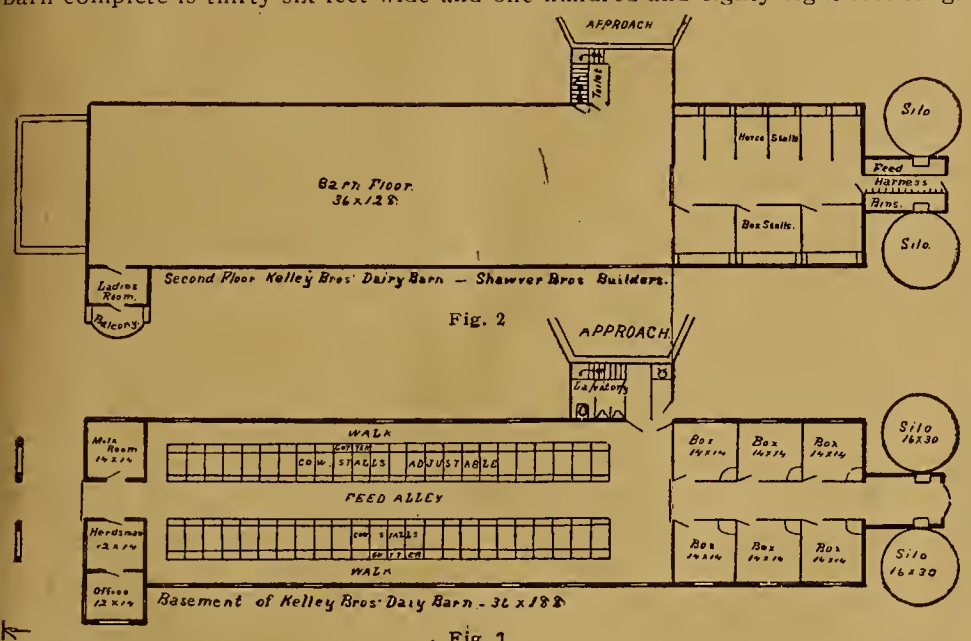

Fig. 2

Fig. 1

The basement has cement floors throughout, except the office and herdsman's room, which are floored with yellow pine. The milk-room is large and well lighted. The single stalls accommodate forty-eight cows. The box-stalls are for calves, bulls and animals that need special care. The Kalamazoo silos are sixteen feet in diameter, six feet below the basement, and thirty feet above. The flumes extend from the top to the bottom, through which the silage drops to the floor and into the silage-car, which runs the full length of the barn. Beneath the approach is fitted up a complete lavatory, and a hall and stairway leading to the floor above. All the stalls are fitted up with automatic watering-troughs, supplied from a large spring half a mile distant, conducted in underground pipes.

Fig. 2 shows the second, or main, floor of the barn. This floor is clear of all posts, beams and obstructing timbers for one hundred and twenty-eight feet, and here is the place the owners contemplate holding their cattle sales, where, no matter what the weather outside, the people who come to attend the annual sales may be in perfect comfort. This space will also be used for unthreshed grain, and for the straw after the threshing is done.

The horse-stables occupy one end of this floor, with six single stalls and three double box-stalls. Harness-room and feed-bins are also provided.

A ladies' room and balcony are located over the office, and ladies' toilet adjoins the driveway.

A stairway over the one that goes into the basement leads to a large gallery on the next floor, which is shown in Fig. 3. This figure shows the gallery, six feet wide and two hundred and ninety-two feet long, which overlooks the main floor

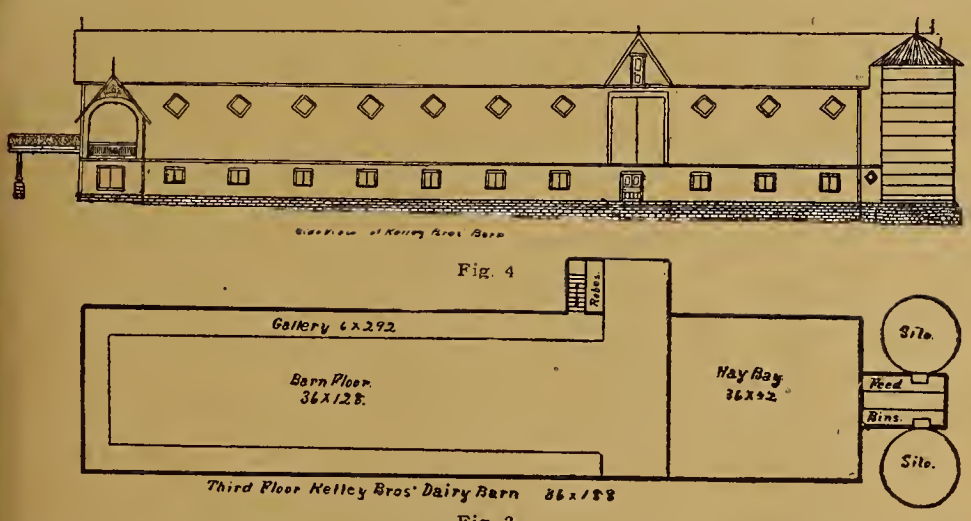

Fig. 4

Fig. 3

below. This gallery is intended for ladies, young people and children who may attend the sale through curiosity, but do not care to be on the main floor among those who come to purchase.

Over the horse-stalls is found a large hay-bay, thirty-six by forty-two feet, which will hold a large amount of hay. Feed-bins are shown on this floor also, but they are only a continuation of those shown before.

Fig. 4 shows a view of the building as seen from the highway some ten rods distant, and will give an idea of the general appearance of the barn.

Another balcony is located in the gable between the silos, where a fine view of the highway, the Muskingum Valley Railway and a beautiful panoramic view of city and country combined may be obtained.

One may travel many miles and not find another barn so perfect and complete in all its purposes as is this. Moreover, it is quite attractive in its appearance, and the owners may well be proud of such a barn.

The basement is constructed of square timbers, mortise and tenon style, while the superstructure is constructed entirely of two-inch plank without a mortise anywhere, and the frame is one of the most rigid and substantial possible to find.

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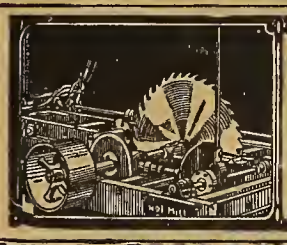

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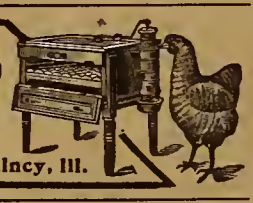

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Poultry-Raising

By P. H. JACOBS

LITTER FOR SCRATCHING

ANY place to which the hens will resort may be used for scratching. They prefer to be under a shed in winter, or a shady place in summer. Anything in which the hens will scratch will answer, such as leaves, chaff, cut straw, or even dirt. Sprinkle a little whole grain in the litter once a day, and the hens will soon learn to hunt for it. It is not the quantity of the grain that should entice them. Only a small proportion is enough, as it should be the aim to keep the hens busily at work, in order to keep them in condition.

HENS FOR SITTERS

The best hens for sitters are those that are active and of medium size. A clumsy hen should not be used. Small hens also usually make excellent layers, as they do not become fat so readily. As long as a hen is laying regularly there is but little liability of her becoming too fat, as the production of eggs demands all the nutriment of the food; but such foods should not consist largely of corn-meal. As soon as a hen ceases to lay she will become fat, and the feed should then consist principally of grass and meat, with grain at night. Hens that are too small can fly over tall fences, while those too large are clumsy, the best for general purposes being of medium size.

QUALITY FOR MARKET

It does not follow because a fowl seems to be of good size and nicely grown that it is marketable. The three-months-old chicken may have a big frame and the making of a good table bird, but unless it carries flesh, only disappointment will accrue when the accounts of sales come in from your marketman. The most certain way of fattening the young chicks is to shut them up in properly constructed coops for fifteen or twenty days, and feed them every three hours. The earlier in the morning the first meal is given, the better. Their diet should consist of buckwheat-meal or corn-meal mixed with milk to the consistency of crumbly dough; a little crude tallow added is also good. Give milk if it is plentiful.

POULTRY-HOUSE ARRANGEMENTS

Never crowd too many hens together. In building a coop or poultry-house, dimensions of eight by eight feet allow of cutting sixteen-foot boards to the best advantage, and waste of lumber should always be avoided. If the house is eight by eight feet it should not contain over a dozen hens. The roosts should be at the back, with nests under them, the top of each nest being a board three feet wide, so as to catch the droppings of the roost. There should be two roosts, each eight feet long, which will give sixteen feet in length of roost. A foot space on the roost should be allowed each bird, which admits of sixteen hens being kept together; but, as was stated, it is best not to have too many together, and a dozen will be better than a larger number. The nests should not be over a foot high, and the roosts may be only six inches from the top of the board over the nest. This will bring the roost eighteen inches from the floor, thus avoiding sore feet, as the birds will not be compelled to jump a great distance.

BREEDS AND PROFIT

There is as much difference in the keeping of the several breeds of fowls as in the keeping of larger live stock. If one makes a specialty of raising poultry for market the weights should be as heavy as possible, as the sales are made by the pound; but if eggs are to be depended on as contributing a portion of the profits, then weight must not be considered. It is no disadvantage to have a large, heavy laying hen if weight and egg-production can be combined, but as a rule the very heavy hens are not the best layers. With larger stock there are special beef-breeds, while others are intended for milk. These characteristics are, of course, impossible with birds; but nevertheless there are breeds that excel in egg-production, while others readily convert food into flesh. The poultryman who contemplates the management of a poultry-establishment should have a definite purpose in view, and in the beginning select those breeds which best conform to his requirements, as any mistake made occasions the loss of at least one year's time. Hence, do not aim for heavy fowls unless you intend to make a specialty of weight. The different breeds all have their peculiar characteristics.

KEEPING LARGE NUMBERS

With a flock of ten or twenty hens the poultryman has an opportunity of giving daily attention, and if anything goes wrong it is quickly noticed; but when large flocks are kept the matter of having them always in proper condition is one of anxiety. In order to give all his attention the number of hens kept must be sufficient to remunerate the poultryman for his labor. If this is not done there will be no profit. If the number is too small the labor will be too large an item, and failure will be the result. It is on this point that a majority of failures occur. It may be safely stated that five hundred hens will support a moderate family, and there are few persons who keep more than that number; but, like any other occupation, the expenses must be taken out, and whether the expenses are too great or not depends upon the extent of the operations. As one man can attend to one thousand hens nearly as well as he can five hundred, it is plain that the smaller the flock, the greater the proportional expense. Many make the mistake of endeavoring to keep too many fowls together, thus not only inviting disease, but, more frequently, lice. When lice make their appearance in a large flock of several hundred it is usually an end of the enterprise, as the labor is at once doubled. By beginning with clean premises, and cleaning them daily, as is done with stables, much difficulty may be avoided. Large flocks may be kept as easily as small ones if divided into families, and attention and vigilance bestowed.

HOW MUCH LAND.—J. N. L., Raymond, Iowa, "has two hundred hens on a range, and wishes to know how much space they should have if fenced in." Much depends upon the value of the land, etc. It would not be too much room to divide into smaller flocks and allow an acre for one hundred hens, though many by good management keep fifty or more hens on less than one fourth of an acre.

INDIGESTION AND OVERFEEDING.—Mrs. L. E., Santa Ana, Cal., states that "her hens cough slightly, the heads being hot, and they are troubled with shortness of breath, with the crops sometimes distended with gas." The difficulty is probably due to overfeeding, especially with grain, the food not being sufficiently varied. The best remedy is to reduce the quantity of food, compelling the fowls to exercise more.

PROBABLY ROUP.—"Subscriber," at Camm, Va., "had one hundred and twenty-five turkeys, which were well until exposed to a cold wave, when they seemed to have roup. Remedies were ineffectual, only thirty-five birds being left, which have probably passed through the difficulty." As roup is contagious, and medicines must be given by hand, at regular periods, it is very difficult to treat the disease, the best remedy being a teaspoonful of liquid carbolic acid in every half gallon of drinking-water. There is no sure remedy, however. Keep the fowls warm and dry, feed on nourishing food, and thoroughly disinfect the premises with any efficient disinfectant, Bordeaux mixture being excellent.

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A Buffalo physician, in speaking of the benefits of charcoal, says, "I advise Stuart's Absorhent Lozenges to all patients suffering from gas in stomach and bowels, and to clear the complexion and purify the hreath, mouth and throat; I also believe the liver is greatly benefited hy the daily use of them; they cost but twenty-five cents a hox at drug-stores, and although in some sense a patent preparation, yet I believe I get more and hetter charcoal in Stuart's Ahsorbent Lozenges than in any of the ordinary charcoal tahlets."

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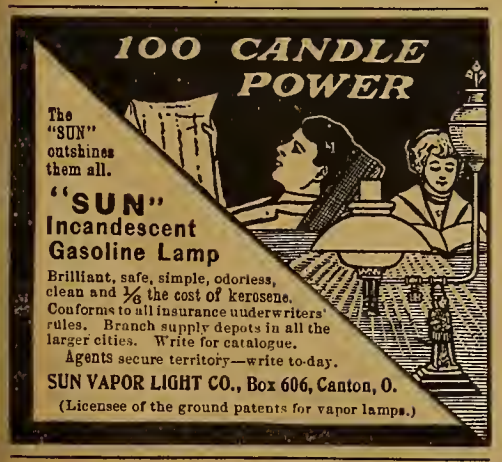

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The Grange

By MRS. MARY E. LEE

THE OBSERVATORY

To convince a man that an action is evil is but a negative act. Show him that it is against the law of self-preservation, and the reform is half done.

The National Department of Agriculture publishes many documents of interest to the farmer. If you do not receive them, why not? Write a postal, asking that your name be entered for the monthly list of publications. Address Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

It must ever be a source of profound wonder and surprise to the uninitiated what spirit of asinine stupidity, docility or submission held sway when some of the teachers of we dear, ignorant public secured employment. We are long-suffering and kind, but even virtuous forbearance has its limits.

READING AND REST ROOMS

We again remind our readers of the opportunities for comfort, recreation and social converse a reading and rest room in a centrally located part of the county-seat would afford. Possibly it would not be feasible at first to keep the room open save on Saturdays, the principal shopping-day. What woman is there who would not appreciate a cozy, warm place, where she could leave her bundles, rest, eat her lunch in comfort, and escape from the storm without. It is humiliating to a refined woman to be compelled to hover over a register in the grocery while waiting for the return of the husband or father. No doubt the commissioners would gladly set apart a room for such a purpose, rent free or for a very moderate rent. Let the granges of a county try this method of spreading grange gospel.

GRANGE GROWTH

Secretary Trimble writes that from October 1, 1901, to September 30, 1902, two hundred and fifty-six granges have been organized, and eighty-six reorganized, making a total of three hundred and forty-two granges organized and reorganized. Secretary Trimble adds, "This is a proud record for the members of the order to contemplate, and yet it does not give the whole story. The membership of the order has very largely increased. During the current grange year, ending September 30th, there has not been reported even one grange as dead or dormant, while eighty-six granges have been reorganized."

Gratifying as is this growth compared with other years, and substantial as is the growing sentiment in favor of a conservative, thoroughly equipped farmers' organization, yet in the vast domain of unorganized America there should be a monthly total of three hundred and forty-two granges organized and reorganized, instead of an annual one.

Some means must be devised for bringing more of the higher type of American farmers into our club. Either the financial inducements must be larger for deputies, or organizers must be employed on an adequate salary for several months in a year. The salary, too, must be high enough to induce men who can command the respect of those they would influence to devote time to the work. Many a worthy man and woman who have been favorably impressed with the grange have turned from it because its claims were presented by men who did not measure up to their standard of worth. They bore this trade-mark, "I am a little man, willing to work for small pay, providing I can climb by these steps to something better."

The grange is on such a solid footing, is so powerful and so full of possibilities that it cannot afford to lie idle or to employ any but the best of talent. Let the various state granges awake to this fact, and spend some of their surplus in sending out as organizers men of high business and mental attainments. The experiment will yield an increase in numbers, bring in the very best blood in the state, and thereby increase the working capacity and efficiency of the grange. Try, and report.

RAINY-DAY MUSINGS

"It's so rainy, I think I will go to the sale to-day," said Farmer Dalton. "There will not be many there, and bidding will be dull. Maybe I can get a cow cheap."

Farmer Grey drove to the door. "Guess I'll run over to Gunnison's sale, Helen," he cried. "It's too rainy to do much. There won't be much of a crowd, and I may get a bargain in a buggy."

"I heard there was a nice hog over at Gunnison's. As it is so rainy, bidding will be slow. I'll run over for an hour or so." So reasoned Brown.

So, also, did nine tenths of all the country round. The consequences were that there was a big crowd, the bidding was spirited, and everything went away beyond its value.

Grey got a worn-out rig for two thirds what a new one would cost, and did not realize how badly he was bitten until he got home. Then he made things blue for his wife and children.

Dalton paid fifty dollars for a cow he would gladly sell for forty dollars. To relieve his wounded feelings he gave her a vicious kick as he drove her into the barn-yard.

Brown ran the hog up above its true value, and found when he got home that he had missed an apple-buyer for whom he had been looking for days. "Just my luck!" he muttered, gloomily, as, hands in pockets, he sought the grateful solitude of the barn. His wife belonged to that large class of women who see behind the shams and pretenses of excuses for going to sales.

"It's so rainy I believe I'll stay home from the grange to-day," mused Farmer Dalton.

"You needn't hurry dinner to-day, Helen," said Mr. Grey. "It's so rainy I don't believe any one but the Hensons will go to the grange."

"Oh, papa, I want to go to the grange so bad!" cried Willie Brown. "A lot of the boys and girls are going to be there, and we are going to organize a juvenile grange."

"Don't tease, Willie. It's so rainy no one will go. I'm not such a fool as to waste half a day going to the grange in the rain."

So, likewise, argued nine tenths of the members. The next time for meeting was rainy. So, also, was the next. The members stayed at home. They got in the habit of it, and maintain it to this day. "The grange had good prospects, but we lost interest. Somehow, we couldn't get together. No use talking grange in this community. It's dead."

Brown, Grey, Dalton and others had intended to buy fertilizer through the grange trade-arrangements. They failed to meet, and ordered as usual through the local agent, paying him about three dollars a ton for writing the order. They had also planned to insure in the grange, thereby keeping for themselves about one half the cost to insure in old-line companies. Rather than exert themselves to keep up the grange, they paid the fees, and grumbled. They had also planned to order oil and gasolene, groceries and a lot of shelf hardware at much lower figures than they usually paid. They still pay the same old price for second and third rate goods, and wonder why they wear out so quickly.

Truly, a rainy day brings its problems and its consequences.

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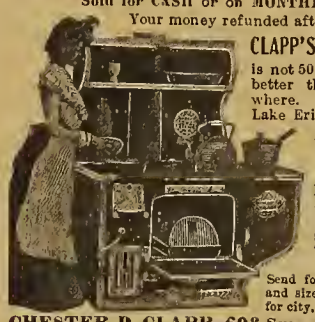

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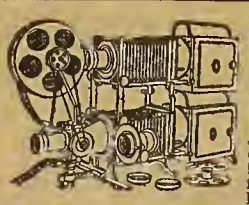

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Around the Fireside

CRACK'N' CORN

BY W. HOLTON PEPPER

You may talk about de singin' stars,
 'Bout de music ob de spheres;
'Bout de solemn voice ob Father Time
 A-ringin' fru de years;
'Bout de roarin' ob de ocean,
 'Bout de ripplin' ob de rills,
'Bout de song ob birds in springtime,
 'Bout de owls an' whippoorwills.
But sweetes' music to dis niggah,
 Jus' as sho as you am born,
Am de soun's from out de pig-pen
 Ob de pigs a-crack'n' corn.

Shell it to dem wid yo' fingers,
 Fro de grains upon de groun';
Watch 'em root each odder ober,
 An' caper roun' an' roun'.
Jus' as fat as little possums
 Wid a crease along der backs;
See der little jaws a-movin',
 Hear dose rapid, noisy smacks.
Dere's much pleasure to dis niggah
 In de duties ob de morn,
But de chief one's at de pig-pen,
 Where de pigs am crack'n' corn.

Let white folks seek pianos,
 Or de orchestra complete;
An' de music-lubbin' niggah
 Pluck de banjo sweet.
Let de tourists climb de mountains,
 An' camp upon de plain;
Explore de ancient cities,
 Or sail de mighty main.
Dere's nuthin' in all creation
 Which Nature and Art adorn
Dat 'tracts dis niggah's 'tention
 Like de pigs a-crack'n' corn.

Let de hoary-headed sages
 Seek fur shinin' grains ob truth,
An' Wisdom's safes' highways
 'Tract de trustin' steps ob youth.
Let de soldier an' de statesman
 Ascend de heights ob fame,
An' bequeath to der posterity
 A greatly honored name.
But don't nominate dis niggah
 To any office shorn
Ob pigs out in de pig-pen
 Engaged in crack'n' corn.

Let de covetous hoard de riches
 Ob dis treasure-barren earth,
An' de spendthrif' squander earnin's
 In de fleetin' roun's ob mirth.
Let de years wid all der pleasures
 Come an' go in sun an' shower,
Till de time on earth is ended
 To de las' remainin' hour.
Den I hope to be a-libbin'
 When ole Gabriel blows his horn,
An' he'll fin' me at de pig-pen,
 Where de pigs am crack'n' corn.

DOCTOR BUCKLEY ON DOWIE

THE probable genesis of the Dowie of to-day is this: Beginning his public career with the sincerity and simplicity of a Christian, he passed into fanaticism, made claims he believed, but, confronted with failures, sophisticated his conscience and reason to explain them. Lured by ambition, self-confidence and love of power into great enterprises which made large sums of money necessary to him, he was obliged to manipulate men, and his shrewdness became cunning. Intoxicated by increasing prosperity, he has come without divine authority to believe himself God's special messenger. In that character he judges, denounces, condemns all who do not accept him, and rules his followers with a rod of iron.—The Century.

THE TRUE LIBRARY

The library which serves the best use for the reader is the little shelf of books which the youth gathers as his own possession. These books become his friends and companions, and the more self-denial their purchase has cost him, the more he prizes them and the more thoroughly he reads them. The greatest men in our American history have obtained in that way their first introduction to literature. They began with a few books, but they mastered them, reading them over and over again. Books taken from a circulating library and hurried through in two or three days serve no such purpose. Reading them becomes a form of dissipation. Such reading does not cultivate the studious habit, but rather prevents its growth.—New York Sun.

EDWIN A. ABBEY TELLS OF HIS START

Edwin A. Abbey, the famous American artist, who is painting the scene of the Coronation of King Edward VII., tells of his early struggles, in an interesting interview in the November issue of "Success," as follows:

"In 1871 my father suggested that it was time to decide whether or not I was to earn my livelihood as an artist, and I decided that it should be my life-work. I was fortunate in obtaining employment in the art department of Harper and Brothers, in New York City. I was only nineteen years old at the time, and was filled with enthusiasm over my work. I was anxious to learn as much as possible, and Harper's was an excellent place for me. I was given a great variety of work, and received every encouragement for earnest effort. Every improvement in my drawings was appreciated. Several boys who worked with me at that time have since become famous in the art world, notably Reinhart and Alexander. Even the boys who swept out the office were gaining an excellent start, for one of them has since become one of the most famous Franco-American painters practising in Paris.

"My first published drawing represented the demolition of the Vendome Column in Paris by the French Commune, and I shall never forget my pleasure at seeing it in 'Harper's Weekly.' It doesn't matter how old we get, we're sure to remember our first appearance. I received many congratulations for my effort, and continued my work with enthusiasm.

"The young artists in Harper's offices were given all sorts of subjects to do—pictorial, illustrative and reportorial—and this variety has been of the utmost value to me. There was one sort of work, however, that I preferred above all others. When only a lad I fell in love with the classic literature of England; Goldsmith was always one of my favorite authors, and whenever I had spare time I devoted it to illustrating some of the stories that I had read. I was especially fond of English history, so you can imagine my delight when it was decided that I was to illustrate the works of Herrick for 'Harper's Monthly,' with a view to ultimate publication in book-form.

"It was then that I first came to England. I thought it advisable to live for a time in the English country, and I settled for two years in one of the most picturesque districts of Worcestershire. I need not tell you that I enjoyed that visit, and when I returned to America, in 1880, it was only to remain eight months and to arrange my affairs so that I could return there. Although I had lost none of my regard for the land of my birth, I felt that if I was to draw pictures from English history, England was the place for me to live, so here I have been ever since, save for occasional journeys to America and the Continent."

A NEW SURVEY OF THE GRAND CANON

The demand from scientists and tourists for an accurate and detailed map of the famous Cañon of the Colorado in Arizona has led to a resurvey of this unique region by the United States Geological Survey under the charge of François E. Matthes, topographer. The Grand Cañon, formerly reached only by stage-route over a desert country, has recently been made accessible by a branch line of the Santa Fe route from Williams, and during the one year that his road has been in operation the Cañon has been visited by thousands of tourists. In the magnificence of its proportions and the grandeur of its scenic attractions the Cañon bids fair to rival both the Yellowstone Park and the Yosemite Valley.

The United States Geological Survey expects to publish a series of atlas sheets covering the entire extent of the Grand Cañon proper and considerable areas of the high plateaus on either side. The first of these sheets, to be known as the Bright Angel, is nearly completed, and will be available to the public some time next summer. It includes almost all of the scenery visible from the Bright Angel Hotel, familiar to every visitor. The Colorado River traverses from east to west the quadrangle represented by this sheet, and divides it almost symmetrically. The new map will be on a scale of one mile to the inch, and the contour interval will be fifty feet. It will show every pinnacle, spur and gully in its true proportions, and each line of cliffs and terraces may be traced along the Cañon walls.

The dimensions of the Grand Cañon have been the subject of much discussion ever since it was first explored. It may therefore be of interest to give some figures taken from this new survey. The average width from rim to rim does not exceed ten miles throughout the Kaibab, or widest section of the Cañon, and frequently narrows down to eight miles. The river does not occupy the middle of the gigantic trough, but flows at a distance varying between one and three miles from the south side. Practically all the magnificently sculptured pinnacles and mesas (the so-called temples) lie north of the river, and at distances of from five to seven miles from the viewpoints usually visited by tourists. The depth of the Grand Cañon in one way has been overstated, in another understated. Measured from the south rim the total depth is considerably less than a mile. From the rim at the Bright Angel Hotel, where the altitude is six thousand eight hundred and sixty-six feet above sea-level, to the high-water mark of the river at the foot of the tourist trail, the drop is four thousand four hundred and thirty feet. The highest point on the south rim at the Grand View Hotel is seven thousand four hundred and ninety-six feet, about four thousand nine hundred feet above the river. From the north side, however, the drop to the water-level averages considerably over a mile, and in many places even exceeds six thousand feet. It may be stated in a general way that the north rim is from one thousand to one thousand two hundred feet higher than the south, thus producing that high, even sky-line so striking in all views obtainable by the tourist. The figures here given are based on spirit levels run in connection with the map-work. They are the first that have ever been run to the bottom of the chasm, and the high standard of accuracy maintained throughout will cause them to be considered authoritative and final.

The Housewife

LULLABY

Hushed is the house now, and silent the drum;
  Stilled is the tin bugle's ringing;
Stealthily, softly, the Sand Man has come;
  Silenced the wild thrush's singing;
But sweeter than song of the sweetest-voiced bird
The soft good-night song of a mother is heard—
  Lullaby, laddie!
  Lullaby, dear!
Sleep, little sweetheart, for mother is near!
The birdies all sleep in their nests up on high;
The stars and the moon are on guard in the sky;
  Lullaby, laddie dear!
  Hush! Lullaby!

The maimed woolen dog lies at rest on the floor
  Where the Noah's ark trav'lers are scattered;
The train is derailed and wrecked there by the door,
  Its gay-painted coaches all battered;
And silence o'er all, for the world is at rest;
Just the low mother-voice to the child on her breast—
  Lullaby, laddie!
  Hush, little dear!
Sleep, weary playmate, for mother is here!
The birdies, too, rest in their cradles on high;
The stars and the moon keep their watch in the sky;
  Lullaby, laddie dear!
  Hush! Lullaby!

—J. W. W.

SOME IDEAS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

"WHAT are you going to make for Christmas," asks one girl of another.

"Going to make!" exclaims the other. "Well, I've got lots of them made and put away all ready." And when she opened the Christmas box, which was always begun about August, it was certainly well on its way to completion.

As we cannot illustrate all of them, a description will have to suffice. Upon the porch in the long summer evenings her busy fingers had fashioned two beautiful, long scarfs in the plain knitting-stitch, with fancy border ends and fringe crocheted in long loops—one of pure white and one of white and pink wound together. They each had their label pinned on.

"I do this," she explained, "for fear something might happen to me, and then they will know for whom they are intended."

She had also made a number of beautiful handkerchiefs, all differently constructed.

"Some of these handkerchiefs I did when I was vaccinated. I couldn't walk," she explained. "I thought it would be so dreary to be sick with it, and not be able to do anything, so I was vaccinated on my ankle."

Some of the handkerchiefs were hemstitched, others were of lace, footing and tatting.

A very pretty bureau-scarf was made of huckaback toweling, the ends hemstitched, then a conventional design of leaves and cherries drawn above it, and outlined in heavy white linen thread. A border of yellow silk was then darned in, which threw the leaves and cherries into full relief. At the top of the border a brier-stitch in the white linen thread finished it.

"What are these rings and ribbons?"

"Oh, those are for the girls, to hold their curling-irons."

One ring held the ribbons, which held another ring parallel to it, through which to put the curling-iron.

The box also contained a lovely shaving-set for one of the boys. This set consisted of a large roll of tissue-paper, two small towels, and a square of white oil-cloth pinked around the edge, on which to keep the articles. Two rolls of beautifully made tatting. This was for some one who could not make it. Little point-lace tie-ends, and turn-over collars.

Did you ever have a piece of string when you wanted it? Well, try a string-box next year on your bureau. Get a round box at the druggist's or some store, put in it a ball of string, and bring the end of the string through a hole in the lid. Decorate the box in any way you choose.

The last article in the box was a lap-pad, which is used when writing. You can put it in your trunk, too, if you wish to travel. Get a heavy book-back cardboard fourteen by twenty inches in size. Cover it with denim, and put three-cornered pieces of silk over stiff cardboard on the corners. Fit it up with blotters, and any one who gets it will be very thankful. W. D. M.

POINT-LACE MEDALLIONS

There was never a time when hand-made laces were so much used as now. The two small medallions illustrated can be used in many ways. They form tie-ends for No. 7 ribbon, and finish each end of the popular sash and waist bows that have from five to seven ends each. Three or five of the medallions wired around the outer edge are twisted together to form the fashionable "chou" so popular for millinery and waist decorations. They can be used upon waists, and upon the brims of hats, and a circle of them

around a center of sheer mull makes a dainty handkerchief. Half a yard of fine point-braid and ten inches of picot edge are required for either design. MAY LONARD.

A TASTE OF TAPIOCA

MOLDED TAPIOCA WITH FRUIT.—Let one half cupful of desiccated cocoanut simmer in one pint of fresh milk for fifteen minutes, then add another cupful of milk, three fourths of a cupful of sugar, a generous one half cupful of tapioca that has been soaked for several hours (over night is not too long). Put it all on a stove of moderate heat, and let it cook slowly until the tapioca is clear and transparent. After dipping cups in cold water, drain them, and place fruit in them in some fancy shape—a heart, star or anchor. Pour the tapioca very carefully over this fruit, set away to cool, and when desired, turn out into individual sauce-dishes, and serve with whipped cream.

TAPIOCA CUSTARD.—One quart of milk and one cupful of soaked and drained tapioca should be placed in a double boiler, and cooked until the tapioca is transparent; then add one cupful of sugar and the yolks of three well-beaten eggs. Let it cook a few minutes, flavor as desired, and turn into a dish. Cover the top with the whites of the eggs beaten to a stiff froth with one tablespoonful of sugar, and dot with bits of jelly or fruit.

TAPIOCA BLANC-MANGE.—One cupful of tapioca should be soaked two hours in two cupfuls of milk, then boiled until it is tender, when a pinch of salt must be added, with enough sugar to suit the taste; stir well, and pour into a mold. When cold, serve with whipped cream, and fruit or jelly, if desired.

ELLA BARTLETT SIMMONS.

BLUE-GRASS CURED HAMS AND SHOULDERS

The dear old FARM AND FIRESIDE has been a friend to housekeepers for many years, and especially to young housekeepers just beginning.

A farmer's wife has to go through her first experience in hog-killing time, and being young she dreads it, and asks for a good method of curing hams. Here are a few items which will be helpful and always of use in preserving meat, etc.

We all know how very different hams taste in different households—some are strong and have a peculiar taste, while others are juicy, sweet and delightful. A blue-grass farmer and wife noted for their delightful hams and sweet bacon gave me this method for curing meat, which is as follows:

When the meat is taken up to be dried, wash it in clean, hot water, and while damp sprinkle powdered borax thickly over the flesh side of every piece. If this is done there need be no fear of insects or bugs, even though the hams and shoulders are left hanging in the smoke-house until cured without even a sack on them. If the summer is very dry, rewash, and put on more borax in July and August. This preserves the meat from taint. Each ham may be tied up in a canvas or paper bag, or be left hanging in a cool, dry place, and will be found sweet and juicy when wanted for use.

SARA H. HENTON.

There is almost a craze this season for buttons, and they are used in great quantities. Buttons of all sizes are to be much used for trimmings, both on the waists and skirts.

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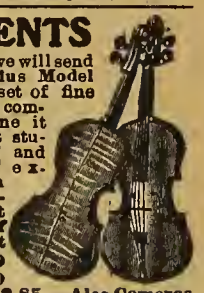

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Great Canadian Wheat Belt

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN

WINNIPEG marks the beginning of the great Canadian wheat belt, where the pioneer is asserting his mastery over the prairie, and exacting from it the tribute of golden grain, which means sustenance. One feature loudly applauded during the fireworks at the Winnipeg Exposition this fall was a large set-piece representing a yellow sheaf of ripened wheat. It was appropriate. In some countries gold is the magic word which causes an eager light to burn in the eyes of men. Out there it is wheat. All things center upon it, and for good reason. As the millions of the earth increase, the cry for bread is rising higher all the while, and those who can answer it will become rich.

The hard wheat of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories ranks with the best of the world. It commands the highest price in the market. Along toward the end of summer, when the sun blazes over the fields, and turns the swaying grain from green to gold with its steady heat, the farmer reads the weather-report in his newspaper, and then throws it aside. He turns his eye to the sky the first thing in the morning and the last thing at night.

The days just before the beginning of harvest are critical ones for the wheat-grower. A thunder-storm with an accompaniment of hail would mean the loss of hundreds, and probably thousands, of dollars in damage to his maturing grain. It is the period when he has done all he can for his crop, and must be dependent upon the caprice of the elements to finish it for him. As a rule everything comes out all right, but it is always a period of great anxiety.

The great wheat belt of the Canadian Northwest includes the province of Manitoba and the territories of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Their combined area is 230,823,040 acres, a territory equal in extent to nearly twice the size of the immense state of Texas. Only a portion of this vast section is suitable for agricultural purposes. The best land in Manitoba is confined to the southwestern portion; in Assiniboia the choice soil is located in the eastern third of the province; the desirable claims in Saskatchewan are in the southern portion, while the best farming country in Alberta is in the northern part.

The land of the Territories did not find such a ready market until recently, but it is now going very fast. Only ten million of the desirable and available total of fifty-two million acres in the Territories have been settled upon.

In order to show what it may be expected to yield when it all passes under cultivation, some deductions can be made with present conditions as a basis of estimate. Although nearly all the best land in Manitoba, amounting to twenty-three million acres, has passed into the hands of settlers, the area in crop this year is only 3,189,000 acres. A fifty-million-bushel crop was raised in this province last year, and the prospects for the present season warrant the belief that the record will again be broken. The number of acres under cultivation in the Territories this year is estimated at one million acres, and there will certainly be a large increase next year. There are men who claim that they will live to see a billion-bushel crop of wheat harvested from this wonderful belt, with several millions of the seventy-five million acres of the available farm-land it embraces left unbroken for pasture and hay. The population is now about four hundred thousand, but when it becomes settled with a family to every one hundred and sixty acres, allowing five persons to each family, it will have a population close to two million five hundred thousand. To this hopeful prophecy I would like to add another one, to the effect that when the time comes for the large crop and the big population there will be flying over all the beautiful flag that has silver stars on it.

There is one important fact to be taken into consideration when contemplating the development of Canada. The entire Dominion is undergoing a general awakening to its commercial interests. The forward movement is not confined to any one district, but prevails from ocean to ocean. The advance is stronger and more marked in portions, but the whole country is coming to participate in the spirit of progress. The significant feature of the situation is the leadership of the Yankees. American men and American money are the leaven of the forming loaf. The prestige of the Yankee as a safe and judicious investor is such that his lead is followed instantly wherever he goes. His venture is a tonic to trade in any region. This is equally true of the Yankee pioneer. Wherever he goes the representatives of all nations flock after him. Probably forty thousand farmers from the States have come into the Northwest Territories this season, and their invasion has brought a general scramble after their heels. Americans are buying immense tracts of this land as an investment. The explanation of this movement is simple. The Canadian may tell you that the Americans recognize that Dominion law and government are superior to those of the United States, and are making the change on this account; but that is not the reason at all. It is simply the Yankee genius for finding a good thing and taking advantage of it. Wheat-land in the States sells for from twenty-five dollars to forty dollars an acre, and the new land over here can be procured for from three dollars to five dollars an acre. This is a difference worth consideration. The families of many farmers in the States have grown too large for their present holdings, and their sons are being started on the other side. In many cases the holdings in the States are not disturbed, and in others only a portion sold to raise money for investment there.

WHEAT-ELEVATORS IN A MANITOBA VILLAGE

When it happens that a farmer in the States sells out altogether, in most cases the buyer is a new man in the country, so there is no loss in population. The movement is a good thing, as it means a widening of American influence. The population of the Northwest Territories is already one fourth American. Wherever the Yankees congregate in such numbers they will sow the seeds of Americanism as certainly as they will plant their grain.

Winnipeg has had one boom, which burst like a bubble, but the present period of activity is not likely to have such an unfortunate termination. It is already the Rome of the great Northern wheat belt, and on account of the lay of the land its importance is certain to increase rather than diminish. Along early in the summer the reapers begin to sing their humming song down in Oklahoma, and the refrain rises in volume as it crosses the yellow fields of Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, the two Dakotas, and sweeps over the border into Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. This song of the reaper and the thresher is swelling into a thunderous annual anthem, which is freighted with the greatest portent for all humanity. When these vast stretches of fertile prairie are finally subjugated by the plow, the bread they will yield will almost be enough to cause the elimination of the words "hunger" and "famine" from the languages of the world.

WHAT CAUSES DEAFNESS

The Principal Cause is Curable, but Generally Overlooked

Many things may cause deafness, and very often it is difficult to trace a cause. Some people inherit deafness. Acute diseases, like scarlet

fever, sometimes cause deafness. But by far the most common cause of loss of hearing is catarrh of the head and throat.

A prominent specialist on ear troubles gives as his opinion that nine out of ten cases of deafness is traced to throat trouble; this is probably overstated, but it is certainly true that more than half of all cases of poor hearing were caused by catarrh.

The catarrhal secretion in the nose and throat finds its way into the Eustachian tube, and by clogging it up very soon affects the hearing, and the hardening of the secretion makes the loss of hearing permanent unless the catarrh which caused the trouble is cured.

Those who are hard of hearing may think this a little far-fetched, but any one at all observant must have noticed how a hard cold in the head will affect the hearing, and that catarrh, if long neglected, will certainly impair the sense of hearing and ultimately cause deafness.

If the nose and throat are kept clear and free from the unhealthy secretions of catarrh the hearing will at once greatly improve, and any one suffering from deafness and catarrh can satisfy themselves on this point by using a fifty-cent box of Stuart's Catarrh Tablets, a new catarrh cure, which in the past year has won the approval of thousands of catarrh sufferers, as well as physicians, because it is in convenient form to use, contains no cocaine or opiate, and is as safe and pleasant for children as for their elders.

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Sunday Reading

MAKING A GENTLEMAN

There is nothing that improves a boy's character so much as putting him on his honor—trusting to his honor. I have little hope for the boy who is dead to the feeling of honor. The boy who needs to be continually looked after is on the road to ruin. If treating your boy as a gentleman does not make him a gentleman, nothing else will.

Let your boy wait upon himself as much as possible. The more he has to depend upon himself, the more manly a little fellow he will show himself. Self-dependence will call out his energies, bring into exercise his talents. The wisest charity is to help a boy to help himself.—The American Boy.

A BEAUTIFUL IDEA

Away among the Alleghanies there is a spring so small that a single ox could drain it dry on a summer day. It steals its unobtrusive way among the hills till it spreads out in the beautiful Ohio. Thence it stretches away a thousand miles, leaving on its banks more than a thousand villages and cities, and bearing on its bosom more than half a thousand steamboats. Then joining on the Mississippi, it stretches away some twelve hundred miles more, till it falls into the great emblem of eternity. It is one of the great tributaries of the ocean, which, obedient only to God, shall roll and roar until the angel, with one foot on the sea and the other on the land, shall lift up his hand to heaven, and swear that time shall be no longer. So with moral influence. It is the rill, the rivulet, the ocean, boundless and fathomless as eternity.—Our Dumb Animals.

GIVING THAT COUNTS

Some years ago, when Dr. Homer Eaton was presiding elder, he had a drive of thirty miles to reach an appointment of one of his men. Part of the way lay through the mountains. Passing a dilapidated mountain cabin a woman came out and hailed him. She asked if he were the presiding elder. She said she was waiting for him, in order to send her missionary-contribution on to the pastor of the church. She earned her money by picking berries in the mountains, and selling them in some villages miles away. Whenever she received any money she put aside a tenth for the Lord. She pressed a bill upon the good Doctor, and then he drove on. After a while he looked at the bit of paper, and to his surprise found it to be a ten-dollar note. It was the Lord's money. Its earning and giving meant much sacrifice. And so it was precious far beyond its value as a circulating medium. Its worth in God's eyes outweighed the lavish gifts of those who gave, unthinking, out of their abundance.—Epworth Herald.

THE FABLE OF MEROPS

The ancient Greeks had a curious fable about a bird called merops. It was a kind of eagle, but when it mounted upward its head was turned to the earth and its tail to the sky. The Greek poets say that it was originally a man called Merops, King of Cos, an island in the Ægean Sea; his wife was one of the nymphs or attendants of Diana, and failing one day to pay the usual homage to her divine mistress, the wrathful goddess slew her. Her husband, who was devotedly attached to her, was filled with the deepest grief, and wished to kill himself in order that he might rejoin his wife in the world of shades, but the Queen of Heaven changed him into an eagle and placed him among the stars. The loving husband, notwithstanding this great change that had taken place in him, could not tear himself away from the familiar earth where his beloved wife was buried; and therefore, as he mounted upward to the stars, he kept ever looking down to the earth. The Greeks used this wise old fable as a symbol of persons who wished to get to heaven without foregoing all the good things of this world. There are many persons in our churches who are like that strange, fabulous bird, flying upward to heaven on the wings of their hopes, while their desires are ever turned toward the earth where their possessions are.—Hugh Macmillan.

DECAY OF RELIGIONS

One question the student will often ask himself—how is it that faiths once mighty and earnest fall into decay, and others take their place? Of course, to no small extent such changes have come by conquest, as where in Persia the religion of Mohammed well-nigh stamped out the old Zoroastrian faith of Cyrus and Darius. But the sword of the conqueror is only a means by which religions have been set up and put down in the world by main force, and there are causes lying deeper in men's minds. It needs but a glance through history at the wrecks of old religions to see how they failed from within. The priests of Egypt, who once represented the most advanced knowledge of their time, came to fancy that mankind had no more to learn, and upheld their tradition against all newer wisdom, till the world passed them by and left them groveling in superstition. The priests of Greece ministered in splendid temples and had their fill of wealth and honors; but men who sought the secret of a good life found that this was not the business of the sanctuary, and turned away to the philosophers. Unless a religion can hold its place in the front of science and of morals, it may only gradually, in the course of ages, lose its place in the nation, but all the power of statecraft and all the wealth of the temples will not save it from eventually yielding to a belief that takes in higher knowledge and teaches better life.—Tylor, "Anthropology."

STONE BY STONE

Tom and Robert were walking through the woods. They came to a stream of water. Both stopped, deliberating what was best to be done.

"I am going to leap it," said Tom.

"I am going to work my way over stone by stone," said the more-prudent Robert.

Tom leaped, and missing his footing, fell into the middle of the stream, while Robert, working his way carefully from one stone to another, landed safe and dry on the other side.

Boys, learn the lesson while yet young. Perseverance and determination are all stones cast across the stream of life. A leap will bring you down among them, wounded and bruised. Conquer them stone by stone, and you will reach the other shore—the coveted land of success.—Watchword.

CONTENTMENT BRINGS HAPPINESS

That happiness is not measured by possessions, but that it is to be found only where content dwells, is well illustrated by an old French legend. "This legend," says Max O'Rell, "tells of the adventures of a king to whom his advisers promised he would find happiness the day on which he could put on the shirt of a man who admitted he was satisfied with his lot on earth. The king started on a journey through the provinces of his kingdom in search of the talisman. Every nobleman or citizen he met was asked the question, but the answer was invariably the same. The royal pageant had attracted on the road a very poorly clad laborer. He bade him come forward.

"'Well,' said he, 'are you happy? Is there anything that you have not got that you wish to have?'

"'No, Your Majesty,' replied the laborer; 'I'm quite satisfied.'

"'Do you mean to tell me you are perfectly happy?'

"'Yes, sire, perfectly happy.'

"The monarch was surprised, but the sincerity of the villager struck him, and he concluded that he had heard the truth from the lips of the humble laborer.

"'At last,' he thought, 'I'm going to be happy myself.'

"'Take off your shirt,' he said, 'and give it to me.'

"'I should be very well pleased to do so,' replied the good laborer, 'but unfortunately I haven't any.'"

The Family Physician

By ROBERT B. HOUSE, M.D.

ELECTRIC BATH

The electric bath is one of the newest things, although it isn't a bath at all. A thick robe is entwined with wires, and this is donned. Then a current of electricity is switched on, and the wearer of the electrical robe soon finds his body getting warmer, until in a little while he perspires as freely as if he were in a Turkish bath.

FADS IN PHYSICAL CULTURE

The professional "Health" journals have recently taken to glaring cuts—for the most part photo-engravings—of naked Samsons with arms akimbo, displaying immensely developed biceps, flexor and extensor muscles. Naked truth seems to be a stock in trade. It is getting tiresome. The naked facts of sensible physical culture, stripped of their overdone examples of nakedness, are very simple. Too much muscle is as much a calamity as too much adiposity. A great many "physical-culturists" are inculcating hurtful doctrines. They would make the public, especially the young, believe that to cultivate an enormous shell of muscle is to be enormously healthy. The early and unexpected collapse of Doctor Winship some years ago, after he had developed his muscles until he could lift an ox weighing a ton, more or less, ought to have opened the eyes of the public, or at least of all medical men. There have been many more recent instances, and still the faddists go on with their false teachings. Most of this teaching is done with a view to the sale of special apparatus or some special system "by mail" at bargain-counter prices. In so far as any of these systems induce indolent and indifferent people to do some motions and take some exercise they do good; but when they result in causing callow youths to go "culture" daft in an effort to imitate the "naked" specimens of overdeveloped muscular systems they do untold harm. The man with overbig muscles is never a healthy man, and, furthermore, he is liable to collapse without notice. Every one can adopt a "system" for himself. It needs but one plain, simple but effective and universal rule: "Practise a series of body and limb motions that exercise and put into natural but moderate use every principal muscle in the body." It need not puzzle any one who has a thimbleful of common sense to discover what movements will do this. When determined, their practice for five to fifteen minutes daily, say on rising and before retiring, is ample for health purposes. As a suggestion, take three forms of movements as follows:

1. Standing firmly on the separated feet, hands on the hips, sway or twist the body in all directions—forward, backward, to each side—turning or twisting the trunk so as to put all the abdominal muscles on the stretch.
2. Squat to the floor, then rise abruptly, and repeat the process a dozen times.
3. Swing, kick and punch (imaginary bags or make-believe burglars) with each one of the limbs in rotation until you have made every motion you can think of.

All this can be quickly learned without the aid of a "professor" of myology, there is no mystery about it, and it does not incur any risk of overdoing the muscles at the expense of other vital organs, or of turning its devotees into "culture" cranks.—The Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette.

The Family Lawyer

By JUDGE WM. M. ROCKEL

Legal inquiries of general interest from our regular subscribers will be answered in this department free of charge. Querists desiring an immediate answer by mail should remit one dollar, addressed "Law Department," this office.

Giving Property to Children.—Old subscriber, Nebraska, wants to know: "A man and wife started over forty years ago with nothing, and now are worth twenty thousand dollars. Can the wife give any of the property to any of the children when the husband and wife are still living?" If any of this property is in the wife's name, she can will it to whomsoever she chooses. If it is in the name of the husband, however, and her husband would outlive her, she would have nothing to will away. If she should make a will, and her husband would die before she died, and the property should become hers, then a will made during the life of both would convey such property. A will takes effect only upon the property owned at the time of the death of the maker.

Widow's Portion.—C. H. C., New York, inquires: "Suppose a wife gives some money her father gave her to her husband to help him in business, and he dies without making a will and without children, would a portion of his wife's money be divided among his people in this state? If so, could she hold her own property if he gave her a note? What would be the best thing for the husband to do who wished to do right by his wife? Is there any way besides making his will?" First, I presume the above property is personal property, and if the husband leaves a widow and no children, parents, brothers, sisters, nephews or nieces, then the widow would be entitled to all the property. But if there be a brother, sister, nephew, niece, etc., then the widow would be entitled to one half, etc. Second, the note given to his wife for the money which she gave him would be good. Third, the husband could turn over all his property during his lifetime if he wished, this being the only way he could convey title without making a will.

Life Lease.—A. W., Pennsylvania, inquires: "If a person has a life lease of a farm, can it be sold while the person lives? Please explain what a life lease includes. Does one have all that is raised? If a man is drinking and neglecting business, has his wife any redress? Can she have part of the property?" Generally speaking, it may be said that the owner of a life lease or life estate may sell the same, or it may be sold on execution to satisfy a judgment against the owner before the owner dies. The term "life lease" might mean two things; it might be used as meaning the same as life estate, which I presume is the meaning given to it by the inquirer, or it might mean a lease of premises during life. In both instances there might be conditions attached in the instrument creating the lease or life estate which would forbid its sale, either voluntary or otherwise. The person owning the life estate is entitled to all that is produced on such property. The owner would have no right to sell growing timber, and would have no right to open up new mines, etc. Some states have laws providing for the appointment of guardians for persons who are drinking and neglecting their business. If the husband has neglected his affairs and wife and family, the wife might sue for alimony, and have the court set off part of the property to her.

A Fair Wood-chopper

By MILFORD W. FOSHAY

PART II.

WHEN Mrs. Knapp drove up to the house on her return she looked through the open door, and saw Myrtle very soberly attending to the needs of her doll. The mother said, "Call papa, dear, to take the horses."

"Papa is lying down in the hole, and a man is trying to lift him up," she answered. "He says I mustn't go out until he tells me to."

Alarmed, Mrs. Knapp tied the horses, and hurried to the pit. No one was to be seen, but she soon noticed the toe of the boot sticking out of the sand. She got into the pit, and dug out the boot with trembling hands. It took but a moment to show that her husband was not there. Remembering Myrtle's words, the horror of a possible murder came over her, and she sank weakly to her knees. But she felt at once that this would not do, so she called and searched desperately for a short time, then took Myrtle and drove back to tell Mr. Brantly. He returned with her, but no trace of Mr. Knapp was found, and after questioning Myrtle he started to arouse the community. Search was made that night, but the missing man was not discovered.

Early in the morning a careful examination of the premises was made. The shovel was found, flung away several yards from the heap of earth outside the pit. While standing at the edge of this heap one man noticed that a part of it seemed to be packed as if a person had stood upon it. Attention once directed there it was soon apparent that some one had been standing there. The shovel was brought, and the earth carefully turned over. The body was discovered readily, and when it was known that his money had been taken the case was clear—he had been murdered and robbed.

A man immediately left for the county-seat, and every town in the state was notified to be on the lookout. Parties were also organized, and beat the vicinity thoroughly. But it was all fruitless, and the matter was left entirely in the hands of the officers of the law!

The second day after the funeral of Mr. Knapp, and the fifth from the murder, the tramp walked into the little, forlorn-looking town of Fuller early in the afternoon, and begged his dinner. He appeared to be utterly tired out, and when he had eaten strolled over to the long line of corn-cribs which are always at a Nebraska station. Approaching the man in charge, Broadson by name, he said, "I'm dead tired, and guess I'll lie in the shade and take a snooze."

"All right. I don't believe you are likely to run off with these cribs," was the answer; but Broadson eyed him so steadily that it made him uneasy. However, it would not do to show fear; besides, he was too fagged out to go further unless compelled to.

Broadson went to the station, and remarked to the agent, "That fellow looks enough like a horse-thief to be the one the boys are after—only he hasn't any horse."

"He may have left it somewhere for a blind," the agent replied. "If any of them come in, he will have to give a good account of himself."

The tramp saw them looking at him, and his guilty conscience increased his fears. Just then several men from different directions came up on horses which evidently had been ridden very hard. They began to talk excitedly to those at the station, and the tramp naturally thought them to be of a party looking for Mr. Knapp's murderer. He concluded that he would be safer out of sight, and started to crawl cautiously toward the back of the crib. At the moment he got in motion the agent was saying, "That fellow out there by the crib looks ugly enough to be the one you are after. Jingo! see him crawl. He's twigged the game."

Three of the men at once rode toward him. He jumped to run, but was too late to get beyond the corner before he heard the command—"Stop!"

He turned round, fearing a shot; but seeing that none of them had a gun he instantly resolved to cover them with his, take one of the horses, and make a dash. He pulled it, and shouted, "Halt where you are! The first man who moves a hand gets a dose of lead. You ride here to me," indicating the rider on the best mount.

The farmer drew up to him, and was told to get off. The tramp swung into the saddle, and with a word of caution, "The fellow that comes after me gets shot," he struck the horse a sharp blow, and was off.

The whole thing was done so quickly that he was well under way by the time the men recovered their wits, and he might have got clear had it not been for the presence of mind of the man whose horse was taken. When ordered to dismount he loosened the tie-strap connected with the bridle-rein, and at the first jump it fell to the ground. As the tramp came abreast of the station the horse stepped on the loose strap, and was drawn up with a jerk which nearly unseated the rider. Broadson and the agent sprang forward to take him. He fired, and the former fell. At this the agent pulled his gun, and shot, bringing the tramp to earth also. Examination showed Broadson wounded and the tramp stone-dead.

While Broadson was carried home and a doctor sent for, some more farmers came in with the thief and the animal which had been stolen. Then who was the tramp, and why had he acted so alarmed? The murder of Mr. Knapp was recalled, and the use of the wires resulted in the body being put on a freight and taken to Compton, where the sheriff received it and sent for Mrs. Knapp and Myrtle. It was decided to let the little one look at the tramp without any other information than that she was to see a dead man. The moment she saw him she exclaimed, "Mama, mama, this is the man who was lifting papa and told Sweetie to go to the house!"

The identity of the murderer was thus settled. But where was the money? A few dollars were found in the dead man's clothes, but the amount which Mr. Knapp received from the express-office was not recovered.

Overcome with grief, and disheartened, Mrs. Knapp soon sold the farm, and returned to the East. Here

"The agent pulled his gun, and shot, bringing the tramp to earth"

she died within two years, and left Myrtle to the care of an aunt, who took pains with the girl's education and had the satisfaction of seeing her develop into a charming young woman. Neither of them knew that the forces which are obedient to the Author of Life were working out a destiny for her in the West.

[TO BE CONTINUED]

THANKSGIVING IN WILDCAT COVE

BY WILL ALLEN DROMGOOLE

BETWEEN two spurs of the Cumberlands is Wildcat Cove, Hickory Nut Mountain on the one hand, and the Eagle's Bluff upon the other, with the Calf Killer River slipping along the level like a snake among the rank weeds and long lush grasses. Corn-fields dot the long, low valley, and upon one of the heights overlooking it sat, like a sentinel, old Grizzly Pendleton's cabin.

Not the home of wild varmints was the cove, but, according to Gregory Cooney, "the natural abidin'-place o' the world's ongodly," meaning the distillers of illicit whisky, who found the cove a natural fortress, and to whom it was really indebted for its name.

"The cove air bodaciously alive with Wildcatters," old Gregory would declare when questioned upon the subject, though he was very careful "not to call names;" for old Gregory, upright as the best himself, was not ignorant of the unwritten code of the Wildcatters regarding such as "'lowed their jaw too much slack."

"Bodaciously alive; an' as for devilment, I reckin thar ain't as much to the squar' inch in all Tennessee as thar be in Wildcat Cove. What with gander-pullin's, an' beef-shootin's, an' quarrelin' over shots, an' bettin', an' sometimes a killin', too, I reckon Wildcat Cove air tolerbul unpromisin'. An' all 'count o' liquor—the Wildcat liquor made by Grizzly Pen'leton an' his boys—an' ever'body that afeard of 'em they don't dare lift hand or voice ag'inst, even if they ware minded to, which not many air."

But old Gregory was mistaken in an item; there was one who was not "afraid to lift her voice," and who certainly was "minded" to do so, and did do so many times, and vainly, before she accomplished anything in the line of reformation.

This was Hester, the slim, slight young daughter of old Grizzly himself, and only sister to the five brothers who assisted their father in the manufacture of illicit whisky.

The old man "pooh-poohed" Hester's complaints, while the five brothers joked her about "feelin' a mighty differ'nt some day when the still should buy her a horse an' saddle o' her own, an' a red caliker dress to turn all the mount'n green with envy." Even her mother told her it was "a waste o' breath, an' none o' her bus'ness, nohow, to be fault'n' the men-folks, an' layin' down the law to her olders."

To which the defiant Hester replied, "Well, I'll make it my 'bus'ness' while I have any breath left to 'waste.' An' as for 'law,' a little law in this neighborhood would be 'bout the healthiest thing could be 'laid down,' I'm thinkin'."

At which the mother would declare that Hester would keep on with her "tongue lashin's until she sure enough set the off'cers on her pappy an' the boys, an' would land the whole of 'em in jail some day."

At which Hester would break down in a flood of tears, and declare it was this same haunting fear of punishment—the jail, perhaps worse—that induced her to keep up the fight against the unlawful business.

Then old Grizzly, who loved nothing under the blue sky so well as he loved this blue-eyed, brave-hearted little daughter of his, would take his child in his arms and promise to quit. "Quit, an' be a lawful-abidin' citizen the balance of his days, if only she wouldn't cry no more."

But the years went by—five of them—and old Grizzly kept to his still. "He wasn't one to give up anything he was set on," they said, who knew him.

And neither was Hester, his own bone-of-bone and flesh-of-his-flesh daughter. She was that much like her father, was gentle, law-loving, little Hester, who loved with all her heart the men who plied their unlawful trade in open daylight under the bluff of Wildcat Cove without so much as "by your leave" to Uncle Sam.

But one day Fate tossed an opportunity little Hester's way; and although she did not recognize it as such—for who of us do?—she seized it, and "found it good."

It was November, and the still had never been so prosperous. The apple crop had been too abundant; brandy flowed as water. Yet things about the distiller's cabin did not seem to mend. The windows were sadly lacking in "lights," the door-step was falling to pieces, and the sheep but for Hester's care would have been left to starve over in the low ground near the river.

"Things air goin' to the bad mighty fast," said Hester, as she stood before the door one morning scattering bread-crumbs to the brown hen and the one turkey-gobbler the place could boast. "Goin' to the bad mighty fast. Last November we had seven turkeys, an' seventeen the year before that. As for chickens, the yard ware speckled with 'em. Now look!"

She made a deprecating movement with her hand toward the solitary brown hen and the disconsolate-looking gobbler.

"Well, Hester, air you-uns a-fattenin' of your gobbler for Thanksgivin'? That's right. Celebrate; celebrate; to be thankful air acceptable to the Lord."

It was the voice of old Gregory Cooney, who was passing on his flea-bitten mare, bound for the settlement below. "Uncle Gregory," as he was known to the mountain, ranked next to the parson himself in the estimation of the people of the neighborhood.

Hester lifted her head to respond to the old man's greeting, but the little mare had already trotted by. Perhaps he had hurried her up a trifle. Hester knew that he disapproved of the still. She looked after the retreating horse and rider.

"You don't hate it no worse than I do," she murmured. "An' as for Thanksgivin', I reckin if you had as much as me to be thankful for you'd be killin' your one turkey-gobbler sure," she added, bitterly. And then the better nature of her asserted itself, and with it came a sudden inspiration to "celebrate anyhow."

Uncle Gregory had said that "to be thankful was pleasin' to the Lord;" and Hester remembered, with sudden shame, that while she had sent up innumerable petitions for help she had never yet sent up a note of thankfulness.

"Always seemed like there could be nothin' to be thankful for while a body ware afeard almost to breathe, let alone to speak. Seems like I have lived in the shadder o' danger until I have become a part of it. Seems like I ain't thought o' nothin' else since I ware born. But I'll celebrate; I'll make up a Thanksgivin', an' I'll kill the last gobbler an' fix it the best I know how. An' I'll have a pumpkin-pie, an' stew some late apples for sass, an' make a biled custard out o' nice, sweet cream. An' I'll keep sayin' o' thanks to God all day in my heart, an' just makin' up a Thanksgivin'. An' if I can't do any more, I'll make dad an' the boys see what a decent Thanksgivin' air once more, anyhow. For it'll likely be the last I'll ever celebrate—since it air the last turkey. But I'll do it, Uncle Greg, an' thank you, sir."

She nodded her bonneted head in the direction in which the flea-bitten mare had trotted away with her caustic but honest rider. She had little time for preparation, for it lacked but two days to Thanksgiving.

In half an hour she was clattering among her pots and pans, paring pumpkin, seeding apples, sifting flour. And as she worked she kept up her thanks.

"Just for life, I reckin," she had told herself. "I can't see anything else to be grateful for."

Then, after a little, she remembered the long, five years of danger, in which a merciful Providence had protected from injury the old head of her father and the younger ones of her brothers.

"I surely have that to thank God for," she told herself, and silently, without words, added it to her Thanksgiving. When she went out at dusk to milk, and the rich, foamy stream found its way to her waiting "piggin," "My!" she exclaimed, "I am sure thankful for the milk." And with a blush of shame for her ingratitude she added "Sue" to her list of blessings.

At supper-time the men crossing the field from the still under the bluffs heard the sound of singing from

the cabin under the purple cedars—a girl's voice, rich and strong and sweet, ringing out upon the evening air. They stopped as by one accord.

"What on earth—" said the old man.

"It's Hester. What could 'a' happened up to the house! Hadn't we better lie low awhile?" said Jim, the oldest of the brothers.

"No," replied his father; "not while Hester can sing. Nobody ever sung like that 'cept just for pure glad. An' I'm mighty glad to hear her do it once more, I am!"

The song rose and fell, louder and sweeter, as they drew nearer the open kitchen door, where Hester stood singing over a wooden batter-bowl, in which she was beating up the corn-meal bread for their supper.

"Why, honey!"

At the sound of her father's voice the song broke off in a little scream of terror, and all the gladness left the sweet, young face. She burst into a sudden flood of tears, and threw her arms about her father's neck.

"There, there, there," said the old man, gently. "I didn't aim to skeer you, noways in the world. Don't cry, then! I ware just that glad to hear my little gal singin' so peart I forgot ever'thin' else in just bein' glad."

"I didn't mean to do it," said Hester. "I have just learned to live in a skeer, seems to me. But all day I have been makin' up a Thanksgivin', an' the song ware a part o' it."

"A Thanksgivin'!" And "makin' it up!" Something very like remorse gave a sudden tug at old Grizzly Pendleton's heart. She had "learned to live in a skeer!" The pity of it touched him to the quick. He took the small, pretty head between his big, brown palms, and smoothed it gently.

"It's been a long time sence my little gal had a Thanksgivin', ain't it?"

Instantly she recognized that she had hurt him; her own heart was too tenderly unselfish for that.

"We'll have one now, though," she responded, brightly. "The apples air gathered for the sass, an' the pumpkin for a pie is stewin' this blessed minute. That old gobbler is just fattened to the full for we-uns' dinner."

"The gobbler? Why, I allowed you-uns ware savin' him, in hopes o' pickin' up a hen to raise from next spring."

"I'm savin' o' him to pick his bones Thanksgivin' Day," laughed Hester; and under the laugh old Grizzly detected the heart-break. "Next spring's a long time off," Hester went on. "Maybe luck'll turn we-uns' way by that time. An' now I want that gobbler's head cut off, beca'se that air the p'int where I draw the line. I can't cut off no critter's head, an' I wont!"

Thanksgiving Day dawned clear and crisp in Wildcat Cove. There was no sermon, save such as the river breathed in the ear of Nature's worshipers, or the cedars crooning a song of November as they swayed their purple tops in the crispy mountain breeze.

The big gobbler sizzled a golden brown in its own gravy, while the pumpkin-pie was good enough for a king's table.

The cloth was spread, and all things ready for the men when they should come up from the still.

"The still," sneered Hester, sitting upon the doorstep, her face clouded for the moment as she thought of the still. "Ever'thin' an' ever'body have got to step aside for that," she told herself. "An' signs—the signs inter which we-uns have to live—be enough to fairly run a body distracted. Look at that! an' that! an' that!"

She ran her eye along the cabin wall, where a horn—a big, evenly polished fox-horn—hung just above the water-shelf. On a shelf on the opposite side of the door stood a large conch-shell, while under the shelf a box of red-eared corn was ready for such emergencies as were fully understood by all parties, even Hester herself.

The girl sighed, and glanced anxiously across the open toward the distant bluff.

"I do hope nuthin' will happen to spile we-uns' Thanksgivin'." she said aloud to her mother, spinning within the room. "We-uns ain't had a Thanksgivin' in so many years now."

Suddenly, as though in answer to her thought, the spinning-wheel came to a sudden, sharp stop. Some one had entered the cabin by the door at the other side. Mechanically, it might seem, the girl reached for the red ears of corn in the box under the water-shelf. She was so still she could hear her own heart beat.

"Is Mr. Pendleton at home?" A man's voice broke the stillness. Three others, armed to the teeth, sat their steeds at the open gate.

"Hey?" She heard her mother's voice affecting deafness.

The question was repeated, but this time louder. The woman affected unconcern now.

"Hester!"

"Ma'am? I'm here, fixin' the sheep-feed." And the red grains of corn fell like sparks of fire when the ear fell from Hester's shaking fingers.

"Whar's your pappy, Hester?"

"He went to the blacksmith's shop to git old Sal a shoe. She cast one last Sadday, comin' from over to Bear Cove. Thar's the horn on the gourd-peg. You-uns can call him if you're minded."

She spoke so quietly she was almost afraid of her own composure. One blast from that horn, and the six below the bluff would be far away among the mountains before danger could touch them. She saw her mother half rise, then—

"Stop! Don't you dare touch that horn!"

The red ears of corn slipped from the girl's arms as she rose and started carelessly across the open, calling, in plaintive, half-childish fashion, "Coo, sheep! Coo, sheep! Coo—"

"Halt!" came the command from the doorway.

"Coo, sheep!"

"Halt there, girl, or I'll fire! Some of you there ride quick around and head her off! Don't you see those red ears are a signal to the Wildcatters?"

A horseman pointed helplessly to a stout fence of barbed wire that zigzagged, doubling three times between themselves and the fleeing Hester. Another leaped for the ax lying against a hickory log, and began chopping away the fence. But while they chopped Hester was gaining.

The man in command called a last time after the figure flying across the bare, brown corn-field, "Unless you stop I'll shoot you dead!"

"Shoot!" she whispered between her clenched teeth.

Just ten steps from the signal-point a bullet broke the arm uplifted to toss the red ear to the unsuspecting ones below. Another grazed her temple, and she fell.

"Oh, God, just life enough to throw once more!" she prayed; and crawling upon her knees to the bluff's edge, she sent an ear of the red corn crashing down to the group seated about the furnace-fire below.

Something touched her shoulder, but she did not know that another bullet had struck her. All she felt or heard was the clatter of hoofs, a low, suppressed shout to some one to hurry, and then all was darkness.

It was noon of the next day before she opened her eyes to see the troubled face of old Grizzly bent over her couch.

"Air it—Thanksgivin' Day?" she asked.

"Yes, honey," said the old man; "the best one Wildcat Cove ever see. We-uns ain't got any turkey, but—"

"Oh, father, did somethin' happen after all to spoil my Thanksgivin'?" sobbed the girl, as her memory began to clear, and the events of the day before came back to her.

The old Wildcatter stroked the hand lying useless beneath the bandages that held her broken arm.

"Not to spile mine, honey," said he, "for old Grizzly Pendleton air that thankful to God his little gal air spared to him, that he has put out the furnace-fires, an' quit the still forever. Now air it a Thanksgivin' Day, or air it not?" said he, with a low, pleased chuckle.

"It air," said Hester; "Oh, it air a Thanksgivin' for true!"

From the doorway came the voice of her mother, "The turkey burnt to a plumb coal, Hester, whilst you-uns ware racin' over to the bluff. Just teetotally to a coal."

"Never mind," laughed Hester. "We-uns have got more than a turkey; we-uns have got a Thanksgivin'."

INTERPRETING DREAMS

"Can you interpret dreams?" asked Beatrice, eagerly.

I could not, but I saw no reason why I should make the confession.

"Certainly," I replied; "I never fail."

"Oh, I'm so glad," she returned. "Lately I've been dreaming such a lot, and—well, I'm sure there must be something in it."

"I haven't the least doubt about that," I said, thinking of those charming, if slightly indigestible, suppers which we had been having.

"Perhaps if you could tell me some of the dreams," I suggested.

"Well, last night I narrowly escaped being burned to death in a fire in the house at which I was staying."

"No difficulty there," I said promptly. "It means marriage."

"Not—not death?" she asked, somewhat anxiously.

"Death? No. What put that into your head?"

"The night before I dreamed that I saw a coffin and—"

"My dear Bea! You must allow me to congratulate you."

"Why?"

"It is quite evident that you are to be married soon. The coffin is—er—marriage again."

"A second marriage?"

"No—I mean it corroborates the fire."

She looked at me with some distrust.

"I hope you know what you are talking about. The coffin couldn't very well corroborate the fire, as it came first, and—"

"Ah, you don't understand dreams," I cut in, anxious to restore her faith in my powers. "In real life, of course, the corroboration couldn't come first, but it's different in dream life."

"Oh—oh!" She waited for a moment or two, and then added, "I suppose dreams always mean something exactly opposite?"

She seemed anxious that I should answer the question in the affirmative, so of course I hastened to do so.

"That is the case. I never heard of a dream episode being enacted in real life."

She gave a sigh—of relief, I imagined.

"Three nights ago I dreamed that I was being married," she said. "What did that mean? That I am to be an old maid?"

"It meant—" I said, and then paused. It was my earnest wish that she would be married to me.

"I'm sure I have puzzled you now."

"Anything but," I returned. "I was only wondering whether—was the man fair or dark?"

"Dreams always go by contraries, you said," she remarked, studying my golden locks intently. "Yes; he was fair—very fair."

"Tall or short?"

She took in my six feet.

"Tall."

"Stout or thin?"

"Medium."

"Very like—"

"Very like yourself," she interrupted. "But of course that doesn't matter, so far as I can see. All I want to know is, what does dreaming about marriage mean? You say that it can't mean marriage."

"I didn't say anything of the sort, Bea. It—er—does mean marriage. The only question is as to the man you are going to marry. That's why I required a particular description of him."

"You certainly said that a dream must mean the opposite," she insisted.

"But surely you don't mean to hold me down to a foolish statement of that kind."

"A foolish statement! Why, Hugh, I thought—do you know anything about dreams at all?" she asked, suspiciously.

"To be candid, I do not, Bea. But—"

"Well, I'm sorry that we have wasted so much time," she said. "I'm going now to see Aunt Sarah. I'm sure she knows all about dreams, and—and that coffin really troubles me."

"Don't go," I implored. "The fact is, Bea, I can help you—if you'll let me."

"I gave you the opportunity," she said.

"Oh, I know, but I can't—I mean—I—"

"What do you mean?" she asked.

"I mean that I can interpret your coffin dream for—"

"But you admitted a moment ago that you couldn't," she said, looking at me tantalizingly.

"You might allow me to finish," I said. "The dream may mean marriage or not. But you can make it mean marriage if you like."

She looked mystified.

"Marry me," I said, "and then—and then the dream can't mean anything else."

"And if I don't?" she asked.

"If you don't I refuse to answer for the consequences. The dream might mean—something dreadful. In fact, I'm sure it would."

She gave a little shiver.

"Oh, anything rather than that. Hugh, I am yours."

I sealed the bargain with a kiss, but she did not respond to the caress. It was evident that she had something on her mind.

"What is it?" I asked presently.

"I suppose," she replied, slowly, "that whether I had dreamed about a coffin or not you would have—"

"Have asked you to marry me?" I cut in, eagerly. "Of course I should."

"And so—it doesn't really matter whether I dreamed or not."

"Bea! What do you mean?" I asked.

"I hate to have every one wondering when we are going to become engaged," she remarked, calmly, "so I hastened matters a little, and invented some dreams."

"But—how did you know that would—er—"

"When you said that you could interpret dreams, I knew," she replied. "A man nearly always makes out that marriage is the interpretation of"—she bowed, mockingly—"a fairly good-looking young woman's dreams. And when the would-be interpreter happens to be in love with the fairly good-looking—"

"Bea," I interrupted, "you ran a great risk."

"Why?"

"Because you are not a fairly good-looking young woman," I replied, letting my eyes rest on her with open admiration. "And if it is only to women of that sort that men interpret—"

"In all the great affairs of life one must run some risk," she remarked; and she looked so charming as she spoke that I was constrained to tell her that she had run no risk at all.—The King (London).

VILLANELLE

My love has gone across the sea—
  Oh, my sweetheart, I am alone;
The woods are sad, and so are we.

To-day her letter came to me;
  I read it o'er at set of sun—
My love has gone across the sea.

Oh, my sweetheart, art cold to me?
  I dreamed that I thy love had won—
The woods are sad, and so are we.

She wrote, indeed, it could not be
  Till winter's frost and snow were done—
My love has gone across the sea.

And is she panting to be free?
  I dreamed our love had but begun—
The woods are sad, and so are we.

Oh, my sweetheart, forget not me!
  The weary days their web have spun—
My love has gone across the sea;
The woods are sad, and so are we.

—Julien Gordon, in Ainslee's.

Her face betokened all things dear and good;
The light of somewhat yet to come was there
Asleep, and waiting for the opening day,
When childish thoughts, like flowers, would drift away.

—Jean Ingelow.

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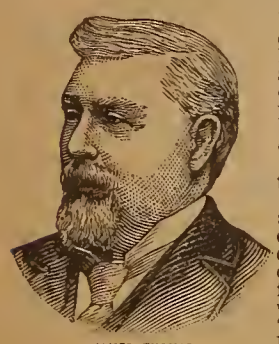
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Shirt-waist suits of zibeline are among the novelties of the season. The stylish model illustrated is in the beautiful variety known as panne, in myrtle-green, and

SHIRT-WAIST SUIT VISITING-COSTUME

is trimmed with bands of broadcloth in a darker shade. The material provides ample warmth for present needs, and later a fur stole can be worn about the shoulders.

A SMART WALKING-COSTUME

The stylish costume illustrated comprises a skirt of wool canvas in cuirasse-gray, with a coat of black peau-de-soie trimmed with a collar of heavy cream lace. The skirt can either be made plain or with the flounce over the skirt, as preferred.

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Shirt-waists worn with skirts of black or other plain colors are always correct for informal home wear, and find a place in every woman's wardrobe. The stylish model illustrated is plaid louisine, made bias, and is worn with a skirt of

HOME GOWN MONTE CARLO COAT AND WALKING-COSTUME

black canvas, but all waist and skirt materials are suitable. The waist is laid in full-length wide tucks at the front edges, that meet and form the princesse closing, and in tiny tucks at the neck and shoulders, that give a yoke effect. The skirt is cut in seven gores, with a fan-plait at the foot of each gore.

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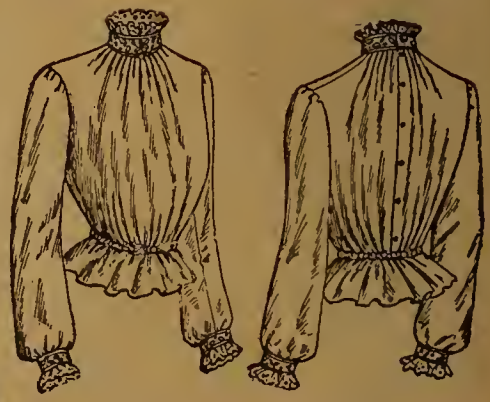

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These Illustrations are Two Thirds Actual Size

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Full Size The ware is all full size, the illustrations on this page being just two thirds actual size.

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- One Cold-Meat Fork given for 3 yearly subscriptions.
- One Berry-Spoon given for 3 yearly subscriptions.
- One Pie-Knife given for 3 yearly subscriptions.
- One Gravy-Ladle given for 3 yearly subscriptions.
- One Child's Set (Knife, Fork and Spoon) given for 3 yearly subscriptions.
- Sugar-Shell and Butter-Knife (both) given for 3 yearly subscriptions.

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and a Set of 6 Knives for	1.75
and a Set of 6 Coffee-Spoons for	.75
and a Set of 6 Dessert-Spoons for	1.00
and a Set of 6 Dessert-Forks for	1.00
and a Cold-Meat Fork for	.75
and Berry-Spoon for	.75
and Pie-Knife for	.75
and Gravy-Ladle for	.75
and Child's Set (Knife, Fork and Spoon)	.75
and Butter-Knife and Sugar-Shell (both)	.60

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This magazine is edited and made up in the city of New York, the leading literary and art center of America. It contains the most timely illustrated articles, the most beautiful illustrations, the best short stories, the most popular serial stories, the most practical household departments, the best of everything desirable for a home magazine. It is printed on the finest paper, has 44 to 60 large pages, 11 by 16 inches. The twelve numbers will contain more than one thousand beautiful illustrations. Each month it carries a message of help, profit, pleasure, education, culture and refinement to over two million readers. Its editors and contributors are the most popular American writers. It is altogether the cleanest, brightest, handsomest, choicest and best of American home magazines. Monthly, $1.00 a year, 10 cents the copy.

COSMOPOLITAN

This magazine covers every branch of human interest with timely, suggestive, well-written and finely illustrated articles by the best authors. It has no superior as a magazine of general and varied attractions, and is widely known through its many years of successful life. Monthly, $1.00 a year.

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has well been called "The Great Magazine of Inspiration, Progress and Self-Help." It is bright, cheerful and optimistic. In thousands of ways it tells people of all ages, classes and callings how to achieve success in life. Its contributors include the best-known names. Monthly, $1.00 a year.

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is a clean, bright, wholesome, entertaining family magazine. The aim of Everybody's Magazine is to give its readers each month interesting, vital and well-written stories and articles. For a free specimen copy address JOHN WANAMAKER, Publisher, New York City.

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THE NEW PRIZE PICTURE (see page 18)	1.00	

(If our New Prize Picture could be bought in art-stores it would readily bring $1.00)

$2.50 for $1.50

FARM AND FIRESIDE one year (Also a chance to get $100.00 Cash (see below))	$ .50	All Three for Only $1.50
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Any one accepting any of the above offers is entitled to suggest names for our "New Prize Picture" described on Page 18 of this paper, and try for the $100.00 Cash Prize.

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AT THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION CONGRESS

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5]

thinks that everybody ought to be well pleased with the results of the recent act of Congress if it results in the reclamation in the next twenty-five years of seven or eight million acres—in other words, if it doubles the present irrigated area in a quarter of a century. In his report for 1895-96 as state engineer of Wyoming Prof. Elwood Mead now irrigation expert of the Department of Agriculture, made the following remarks, which might well be taken to heart by those who hope (or fear) that millions of acres will be added to the irrigated area every year:

"The reclamation of arid land is a slow process. The lands under a canal as a rule are not settled in a year or two years. The history of large works shows that ten years is none too long in which to carry an important project to completion."

The preservation of the mountain forests is so intimately related to the maintenance of a regular water-supply for irrigation that it is small wonder that the Irrigation Congress devoted a considerable share of its time to the consideration of forestry problems. The committee on resolutions devoted great attention to the same subject, the most important paragraph of their report being as follows:

"We urge the enactment of adequate national and state laws for the preservation of our forests. Forest reserves should be extended wherever necessary for the preservation of the water-supplies; more rangers should be appointed to protect the reserves from fire; adequate provision should be made for the prompt extinguishment of all fires; burned areas should be reforested; and the national government should, whenever practicable, utilize its troops as a forest patrol, and with the coöperation of the states rigidly guard against forest destruction."

Other matters of some importance were referred to in the report of the committee on resolutions, but no new policy was proposed, and there was no comprehensive treatment of any subject considered by the committee, if exception be made of forestry. The first paragraph of the report should be read for the light it throws on the one subject in which every member of the Congress was interested, as well as for a suggestion of the bombast that pervaded the entire report:

"The Tenth National Irrigation Congress felicitates the entire American people upon the enactment of the National Irrigation Act of June 17, 1902, one of the most beneficent and wide-reaching measures in the history of our legislation, and rejoices in the fact that its passage was due neither to partizanship nor sectionalism, but to the patriotic and united coöperation of men from all parts of the country, irrespective of political complexion."

The report acknowledged the valuable services of President Roosevelt, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the friends of the bill in the Senate and the House, and expressed the obligation of the Congress "to all who have labored so successfully and unceasingly to secure the inauguration of the policy for the reclamation by the national government of its arid empire—a policy which will be productive of greater good to a greater number than any other governmental achievement of modern times." The report also expressed confidence of the Congress in the administration and in the officers who will have charge of the work of carrying the provisions of the reclamation act into effect, and actually agreed to leave "all questions relating to this subject to their discretion and judgment."

The chief value of the work of the Congress will be apparent in the interest which it has aroused, and will continue for some time to awaken, in the subject of the reclamation of the plains of the West. The work to be done is now by law (and the grace of the National Irrigation Congress) committed to the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior, who has charged the Geological Survey with the task of making surveys and recommendations to determine where it will be advisable to begin the long process of reclamation by the construction of storage reservoirs. Doubtless there will be a long period of waiting before any land is irrigated as a result of the passage of the recent act of Congress.

The Congress decided to hold its next session at Ogden, Utah, and then elected Col. Edwin F. Holmes, of Salt Lake, as president for the ensuing year.

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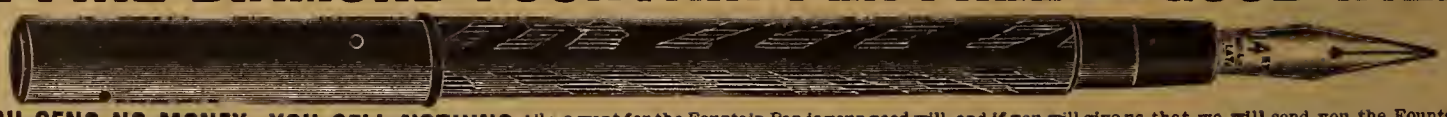

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FARM AND FIRESIDE

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COMMENT

GOOD ROADS AND RURAL MAILS

Mr. Martin Dodge, director of the Bureau of Road Inquiries of the Department of Agriculture, says:

"We are continually paying an avoidable road tax of more than six hundred and fifty million dollars each year for the privilege of driving over our dusty and muddy roads. This enormous expense is better comprehended by saying it equals a tax of more than seven dollars each year for every man and woman and child in this country.

"At a cost of construction of say eight hundred dollars a mile, brick track-roads for the entire country would cost less than four times the six-hundred-and-fifty-million-dollar loss which it is estimated we are now sustaining each year on account of our bad roads.

"The continued advance in the area reached by the benefits of rural free mail-delivery under aid from the national treasury indicates its deserved popularity in the rural sections. A steady increase seems probable in the area thus benefited, until all of the more densely populated parts of this country are covered.

"To the rapid and economical extension of rural-mail delivery only one obstacle worthy of consideration presents itself; but that obstacle is of such a nature as to greatly affect its practicability and economy. This is the condition of our country roads.

"Without question one of the first great movements toward the economical free rural delivery of the mails should be the construction of passable roads. This is already evident from the fact that some of the mail-delivery routes have had to be abandoned on account of bad roads.

"The circumstance that over six million dollars was appropriated by our last Congress, largely to be buried in our muddy roads in the delivery of our rural mails, while only the small sum of twenty thousand dollars was last year devoted to meeting the road problem, indicates the great need of education regarding the present necessity and demand for vigorous and intelligent road work.

"As much of these large appropriations for rural-mail delivery could be saved if we had good roads, it is obvious that an amount equal to a considerable portion of these sums could be spent to good advantage in educating the people in the work of improving our country roads."

CHARACTER AND SUCCESS

In a recent address before the New York Chamber of Commerce President Roosevelt forcibly presented the idea that character is the basis of good citizenship and success. He said, in part:

"The first requisite of a good citizen in this republic of ours is that he shall be able and willing to pull his weight—that he shall not be a mere passenger, but shall do his share in the work that each generation of us finds ready to hand; and furthermore, that in doing his work he shall show not only the capacity for sturdy self-help, but self-respecting regard for others' rights.

"The chamber of commerce, it is no idle boast to say, stands in a preëminent degree for those qualities which make the successful merchant, the successful business man, whose success is won in ways honorable to himself and beneficial to his fellows. There are very different kinds of success. There is the success that brings with it the seared soul—the success which is achieved by wolfish greed and vulpine cunning—the success which makes honest men uneasy or indignant in its presence. Then there is the other kind of success—the success which comes as the reward of keen insight, of sagacity, of resolution, of address, combined with unflinching rectitude of behavior, public and private.

"The first kind of success may, in a sense—and a poor sense at that—benefit the individual, but it is always and necessarily a curse to the community; whereas, the man who wins the second kind, as an incident of its winning becomes a beneficiary to the whole commonwealth. Throughout its history the chamber of commerce has stood for this second and higher kind of success. It is therefore fitting that I should come here as the chief executive of the nation to wish you well in your home, for you belong not merely to the city, not merely to the state, but to all the country, and you stand high among the great factors in building up that marvelous prosperity which the entire country enjoys.

"The continuance of this prosperity depends in no small measure upon your sanity and common sense, upon the way in which you combine energy in action with conservative refusal to take part in the reckless gambling which is so often bred by, and which so inevitably puts an end to, prosperity."

THE AVERAGE YIELD

According to the "Crop Reporter," the preliminary estimate of the average yield an acre of corn, as published in the monthly report of the statistician of the Department of Agriculture, is 26.8 bushels, as compared with an average yield of 16.7 bushels in 1901, 25.3 bushels in 1900 and 1899, and a ten-year average of 23.4 bushels.

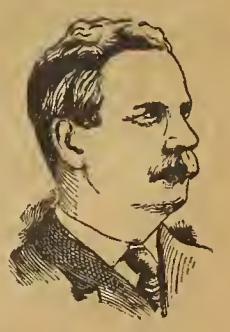
When one reads the estimate of the total corn crop of the country in thousands of millions of bushels, and of its value in hundreds of millions of dollars, he is very apt not only to be deeply impressed with the magnitude of this single branch of farming, but also to imagine that it must be very profitable. But when we consider the average yield of less than twenty-seven bushels an acre, and carefully count the cost of producing it, we at once realize that millions of acres of corn return very little pay for the labor expended, and little or no interest on the capital invested. Indeed, very many million bushels of corn must have been produced at a loss, under the averages named. The "average yield" is the dark side of farming.

AFFAIRS OF NOTE AND MEN OF MARK

Governor Robert LaFollette, of Wisconsin, who was reëlected last month, has attracted considerable attention from his countrymen beyond the boundaries of his own state. The most interesting part of politics in Wisconsin is the sharp division in the dominant party over certain state issues. The party convention was controlled by Governor LaFollette and his friends, and it adopted a platform strongly advocating the Governor's favorite reform measures. The convention, while recognizing the high merits of Senator Spooner, one of the ablest men now in the United States Senate, indorsed him for another term on condition that he would formally accept the Governor's special planks on state issues. Hence, the recent campaign has been marked by a controversy within party lines between the friends of Governor LaFollette and the friends of Senator Spooner, who will be a candidate for reëlection.

William Dean Howells, now rounding out a remarkably successful career as a professional man of letters, was born at Martin's Ferry, Ohio, March, 1, 1837. His paternal ancestors were Welsh Quakers; his grandfather emigrated to the United States, and became an ardent Methodist; his father became a Swedenborgian, and in that faith the younger Howells was trained. His victory in the struggle of early life is an inspiration. Before he was twelve years old he was setting type in his father's printing-office at Dayton, Ohio, and often worked at the case until eleven o'clock at night, and then rose at four in the morning to "carry papers." At the age of fourteen he was a compositor on the "Ohio State Journal" at four dollars a week; but from that time his careful, conscientious work gained ever-increasing rewards.

Theodore E. Burton was born at Jefferson, Ohio, some fifty odd years ago. He was graduated from the Oberlin law school in 1872, and began the practice of his profession in Cleveland in 1875. He has represented the twenty-first district of Ohio in Congress since 1889, with an interruption of two terms—1891 to 1895. Mr. Burton is a student of political economy, and is the author of an interesting and practical work, entitled "Financial Crisis," which has added to his reputation as a lawyer, business man and legislator. Mr. Burton ranks high among the "promising" members of Congress, and was considered as "available" for the speakership.



Of all the states that had important elections last month New York had the hardest-fought political battle. The result was the reëlection of Governor Benjamin B. Odell, Jr., but his plurality was only about one tenth of what he had two years ago. His opponent, Mr. Bird S. Coler, received a surprisingly large vote in the city of Greater New York, and it was only by the utmost endeavors of his party organization that Governor Odell received a vote in the state large enough to elect him by a safe margin. The phenomenal plurality in the city for the one was overcome by a phenomenal plurality in the state for the other.

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1 ½ oz. Trailing Arbutus,	.25
1 jar Tooth Powder,	.25
1 jar Rose Shampoo,	.25
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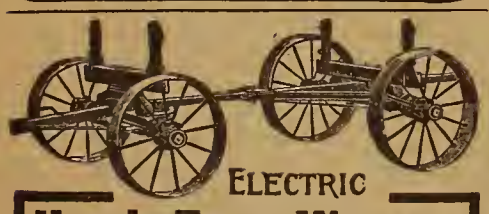

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AGENTS WANTED. CATALOGUE FREE. Crayon Portraits 45c. Family Records 5c. Pictures and Frames wholesale, prices the lowest. Frank W. Williams & Co., Chicago, Ill. Dept. A.

Mr. Greiner Says:

THE SOY-BEANS.—We do not often have a worse season than 1902 proved for beans, soy-beans in particular. My crop is light and somewhat disappointing. I left the plants in the field until entirely dead, then cut them, partly with a mower, and partly with a scythe. A few were gathered by pulling up by hand. I left them on the ground until thoroughly dry, then raked them in windrows and bunches with the common hay-rake; finally, at the end of October, I gathered them up like hay and hauled directly to the threshing-machine. The chickens have the run of the fields, and pick up the leavings. Of the ten or more varieties of soys I had I find the Early Brown and Early Black very early, but by far too dwarf and shy in yield. Ito San, a yellow sort, seems to me yet the best of the sorts now in general cultivation. The plant is robust up to three or four feet tall on good soil, fairly productive, and perhaps a couple of weeks later than the Early Brown. I got my first stock of this under the name of German coffee-bean. The high food value of the soy-bean is beyond possibility of dispute. I shall have some grown up with corn, but shall hold mine mostly for feeding to poultry. At the present time soy-beans are in big demand for seed.

SWEET CLOVER.—Apparently sweet, or melilot, clover, both white and yellow, is a very rugged plant and able to take care of itself in the competition for room and food with any plant that I know. There are big patches here, as elsewhere, and the roadsides are covered for miles with it. Between here and Buffalo and all around the city you will find vacant lots, acres and acres of them, covered five or six feet with this persistent weed. An Illinois party sends out a circular advertising white sweet-clover seed. It is said to be a good honey-plant, and sometimes recommended for planting in waste places and along roadsides, etc., for bee-pasturage. When in bloom a sweet-clover patch in good weather is usually swarming with the little honey-gatherers, and yet little seems to be known about either the quality or the quantity of the sweet nectar that this plant furnishes. Have any of our readers made observations that enable them to talk intelligently about sweet clover as a honey-plant?

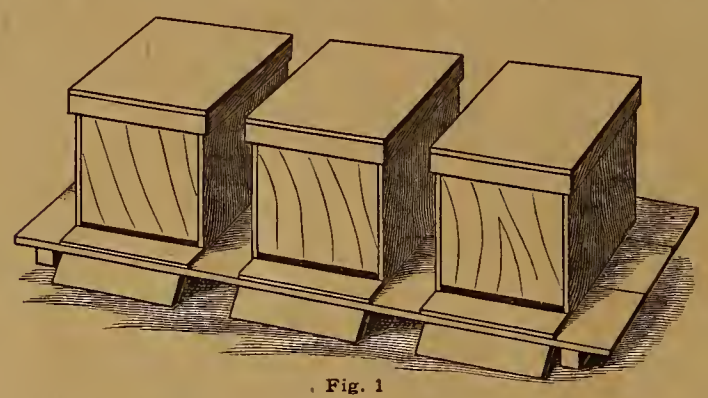


Fig. 1

PROTECTION FOR BEES.—I do like my bees. If the reader had a nearly continuous supply of as fine honey as I have on my table right along he would like his bees. Bees are useful otherwise. That is why I plead for winter protection for bees left out exposed to the winter's cold. They deserve it. They royally pay for it. Why longer refuse it? They sweeten our lives, even if they do sting now and then. Let us reciprocate by tempering the bitterness and severity of the blizzards that are soon to come upon them. The accompanying illustrations show how I insure the safety and comfort of my few colonies of bees. In Fig. 1 they are shown as they appear in the open season. I leave them standing on the platform, which afterward serves as the bottom for the box in which the stands are incased during the winter. If one or more of the hives have been moved away or separated during the swarming season I gradually move them closer together again, and finally place them as the illustration shows. When cold weather approaches the casing is put around the hives. The front, rear and sides each are separate, being put together with screws. My bee-box, Fig. 2, is five feet long and two feet three inches wide; the front is two feet high, and the rear eighteen inches high. I fill the box with chaff or cut straw, packing it closely around the bee-hives, then remove the tops or covers of each hive, and also the honey-board, covering the frames instead with a cushion or piece of thick cloth or blanket. The space between the hives and the cover or roof of the box is then filled with chaff, etc., and well pressed down. Finally the cover is screwed on, and the job is done. The top, of course, is slanting enough to shed rain. I cover mine with tarred felt. Bees thus protected are in good shape, and if well provided with honey at the beginning of winter, and have a young or strong queen, are likely to pass through the severest winter unharmed, and to be ready for another season of work and usefulness when spring comes.

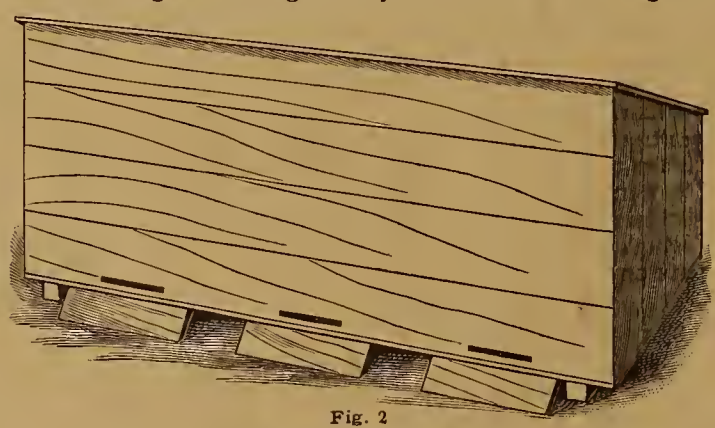


Fig. 2

Mr. Grundy Says:

THE BUILDING AND FENCE PROBLEM is becoming a more serious one on the farm every year. The price of lumber is steadily rising. Fourth-grade lumber now costs more than first-grade lumber did a few years ago, and will not last more than half so long when exposed to the weather. It was a mistake to ever put a tariff on foreign lumber, and virtually shut it out. Only a few millionaires were ever benefited by the tariff on lumber. If our supplies were unlimited, or could rapidly be renewed, the matter might be different. Farmers must learn to use other materials in the construction of buildings that are to be permanent. Lumber has been used almost exclusively because it can be easily handled and a building can be rapidly put up, but there will have to be a change. We shall soon have to use brick and concrete, and better protect with paint the buildings we have. If the American farmer was more of a permanent home-builder than a mover we should see more substantial material used in the buildings on the farm. We should see farm homes built more like they are in the older sections of the country—to stand for generations. People living in the prairie sections have good reasons for using lumber almost exclusively in their buildings. At present brick, stone and material for concrete is much more expensive than wood, and while this remains the case they will use the latter. It is really cheapest in the end to use the more expensive material, because the building will then stand for decades without a cent of cost for repairs, while paint and repairs for a wooden building amount to a round sum in a few years. If we grow our own posts the fence problem is not such a serious one.

A MORTGAGE-LIFTER.—The corn crop now being gathered surely is a bumper. I have found very few farmers who are slightly disappointed in the yield of their fields, but nine out of ten are pleased to find the yield fully up to, or exceeding, their expectations. And what is still better, the price is at a figure that is going to put a vast amount of money in the pockets of people who quickly return it to the "channels of trade." During the past year a large number of farmers have paid off debts that have harassed them for years, and a great many more will be able to do the same thing this year. They will buy new and improved tools and implements for household and field, refurnish, repair and paint, and improve in every direction. The one touch of shadow is that they may, many of them, dip into debt again in carrying out plans that are a little beyond their available means.

This is the one pitfall the farmer should by all means avoid. Mortgages and debts have hung over hundreds and thousands of fair farms for years, checking improvement, preventing advancement in knowledge and culture, holding the owners in an iron grip, creating dissatisfaction among the children and a desire to get away from the farm and the slavery of debt and what seemed like unending drudgery and toil. This cloud has fled before the bright sunlight of prosperity, and thousands of farms are free from debt, and thousands of farmers feel the independence and spirit of the man who owns his home and owes no man a penny.

"I'm out!" exclaimed a man somewhat past middle age, slapping me on the shoulder, and looking like he'd just got out of a cage. "I'm out of debt, thank heaven! And from this time on I'll stay out! I've lived under a mortgage fifteen years, and have been a slave all that time. The man who is in debt seems constantly to be in bad luck. That was the way with me. A horse dies, a cow dies, cholera gets his hogs, sickness puts him or his wife out of business at a critical time, and a big doctor's bill comes in, and trouble seems to loom up before him whichever way he turns. He is handicapped with a shortage of machinery, lack of buildings and fences, and he worries, and his wife worries, and there seems to be no pleasure in life for the children, and the road is all uphill. I've traveled it, and know every turn. From now on I'll take the level road, and rest in the shade occasionally, and take a little time to court my wife and thank her for the help she gives me; and I'll get the boys a nice buggy, and help the girls fix up their little parlor and make it a pretty place in which to have company. I've known all the time what the family wanted, but I had to frown and growl because I couldn't help myself. Now I can, and I'll show my family that I have a heart in me!"

Let us hope that the great corn crop with which the country is blessed will help thousands of others to rejoice as this man is rejoicing; that it will remove the shackles of debt from thousands of farm families, and check the exodus from the fair fields to the smoky, crowded cities. No man has better opportunities for a broad self-culture than the farmer who is out of debt. He is close to Nature, and his surroundings are quiet and peaceful. He is entirely free from the hustle and bustle and noise of the city, and he can read and study at his leisure. To be sure, he has work to do, but he can manage so as to keep that well in hand. If it rains to-morrow he can enjoy the companionship of his books and papers by his own quiet fireside. If it is fair he can find plenty of profitable work to keep him busy. I have seen clodhoppers in town who said they had come there because they had nothing to do at home, but I never saw a thorough farmer in that fix. When he is not actively at work he is reading and studying; and the more a man reads and studies and advances, the broader is the field that opens before him, and the greater is his enjoyment in its exploration. After a man gets out of debt it is easier to make money, because he is able then to buy the conveniences necessary to enable him to get the most profit from his labor and from what he produces. I would advise every farmer to make a supreme effort to get out of debt now, while the sun of prosperity shines. Clouds will come in time, and the burden of the debtor will be made heavy again.

All Over the Farm

ACID PHOSPHATE IN STABLES

THE value of land-plaster as an absorbent in stables has long been known. Many now understand that a portion of the acid phosphate we buy as a fertilizer is land-plaster. This does not mean that manufacturers put land-plaster into the fertilizer, but the material is formed in the fertilizer when they are treating it with sulphuric acid to make the fertilizer available. It follows that we can use the acid phosphate in the stables as an absorbent with good results. Its use prevents the escape of the ammonia. The especial value of the acid phosphate as an absorbent lies in the fact that it contains the one element of fertility that most soils are deficient in—phosphoric acid—and we thus get a kind of double value out of the material. It is rare that stable manure is not benefited by the addition of this element, the land showing its appreciation of such a balancing-up of the fertility in the manure, and crop yields would be better if there were a freer use of this absorbent.

WHITE GRUBS

The grubs of the May-beetle are voracious feeders on the roots of meadow and pasture grasses, clover, wheat, corn and other similar plants. When numerous they do great injury, and there is no remedy that can be applied to save the growing crop. Many kinds of chemical substances have been used to destroy them in the ground, but none has any practical value. Some farmers have faith in common salt, potash salts, etc., because an application has been followed by the disappearance of the grubs, but in every such case it may be said safely that the grubs would have disappeared anyway, simply because they had reached such a stage of development that they were ready to change soon into the beetle form, and to deposit eggs for another lot of grubs. Experiments have shown that any amount of salt or similar material that would affect the grubs in the least would render land unproductive for years to come.

Where the very small grubs, hatched in midsummer, are found in sod-land in the fall the only practicable thing to do, if they are very numerous, is to plow the land before winter, and to grow a plow crop the next summer. The plowing in the fall will not kill all the grubs, and often appears to kill very few of them, because they work down below the frost-line, but this plowing and the continuous summer tillage of the ground combine to reduce the danger of future injury. Finally the greater number is destroyed. Early potatoes can be grown on such land, and usually corn will not be greatly injured, if the sod is broken in the first year of the grubs' growth. When left undisturbed in sod until their second year they are capable of much more serious damage to crops. The breaking-plow and good tillage when the grubs are young furnish about the only effective means of fighting this insect that has reduced crop yields seriously in some sections during the last few years.

FEEDING CORN STOVER

The farm paper makes a mistake when it tries to aid only the most progressive readers. They can win anyway. While the corn-shredder should be in common use, it is probable that not one fourth of the FARM AND FIRESIDE readers have an opportunity of using a shredder. Outside of the center of our great corn belt the stover, or fodder, as it is often called, is an important item in the feeding ration, it all being required for the live stock. Where a shredder is not available the greater part of the feeding value can still be gotten. The great loss has been in the field, and that still occurs when our shredders are used, if the season is wet, causing long delays. The man who grows only a limited acreage of corn—ten to twenty acres—and wants to put all the stover to its best use, should have barn-room for half of it at least, and that does not require a large space. The husking should be done as soon as the corn is ready for the crib, and when rains threaten the stover should be housed before the corn is attended to. When put into bundles and tied with twine it can be mowed away nearly as economically as hay, so far as space is concerned, and more easily. Any stover left in the field should be put into shocks of a dozen bundles, then drawn closely together with a rope and ring, and tied with twine. The twine is not wasted, coming into use for tying bundles another year. Another way of saving is by stacking, but the tied shock does quite well. Shocks remaining in the field twisted or down, and beaten by the weather late in the winter, show a waste and lack of thrift that is not very complimentary to American farming. Where there is an excess of corn-stalks, as in some of the great corn states, the feed is not needed, and the stalks are not cut. That is a matter entirely different from cutting the stalks because needed, and letting the shocks rot in the field.

VITALITY IN SEED-CORN

There are years in which a man may go in the spring to an unroofed pen containing corn, and select seed that will give him as good a stand of plants as any more careful neighbor may secure. The corn was well cured when cribbed, and the spring was favorable to the germination of the seed. Then comes the off year, in which the seed from the open crib gives a rather poor stand of plants. They come unevenly, and some grains do not sprout at all. The blame is put upon the rains, and there it belongs in one sense; but in the same spring another farmer has a good stand of plants, because the seed had enough vitality to withstand the effects of poor soil and weather conditions. If you doubt the variability of seeds in this point of vitality, make a test in the house before planting-time, and note how slow some grains are in germinating, while others respond quickly to the effect of the heat and moisture supplied artificially. Some will finally grow if everything remains favorable, while others will grow if they have half a chance. What we want is seed-corn that will germinate quickly and surely, and the secret of success is in having it as nearly absolutely dry before winter as we can get it, and in keeping it so. Cold weather does little injury to dry corn, and would do none if it were perfectly dry—an impossible condition. Artificial heat is safest in curing seed-corn. The old-fashioned way of tying it to the rafters of the living-room was just right, but we hardly want to go back to it. In one of the best farm homes of the East the supply of seed is stored neatly in a rack on one side of a room in daily use and always warm. We may not want to adopt this way, but we can cure the corn thoroughly with fire-heat, then store it in dry quarters. Such corn will grow in a bad season, and give a stand of plants, if any in the neighborhood does. DAVID.

CHORING BY LANTERN-LIGHT

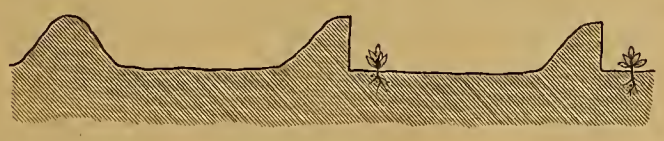
Some men make a practice of doing their chores by the light of a lantern summer and winter. No matter whether they may be crowded by other work or not, they put off chores until it is dark enough in the barn to make the lantern necessary. Not only this, but not a few men are careless enough to go about with old, broken, rickety lanterns, just ready to drop to pieces, setting them down on the barn floor while they feed the horses and other stock. It is enough to make the careful man nervous to note the disregard of danger these farmers manifest. And it cannot be doubted that many more barns than we know of are destroyed by fire simply through the careless habits of their owners in the matter of carrying the lantern about at night.

There may be times when it is necessary to do chores after dark—work on the farm may press, or we may have been compelled to be away from home for the day. In such cases we cannot well avoid night work in the barn. It is also a good practice to go out to the barn before bed-time, to see if everything is all right with the stock. Most of us, however, are not so pushed with labor that we cannot finish up all the chores by daylight, under ordinary circumstances. Only force of habit—and bad habit, too—leads us to delay this work until after dark. But when we are compelled to lengthen out the day so, we cannot afford to be careless about the care of the lantern. All around the barn there should be hooks on which to hang the lantern. One such hook may save the whole barn, and perhaps the house, too. Even a nail driven high up in the horse-stall on each side of the horse will provide a place to hang a lantern where it will give a good light while engaged in cleaning up the team. Better than this is a small piece of chain with a hook at the lower end suspended from the ceiling behind the horses or the line of cows. These should be well up out of the way. I saw a lantern tipped over on the floor of a barn not long ago, and wondered that the building was not set on fire. We can do much toward insuring our own buildings against fire by being exceedingly careful about the use of the lantern after dark. E. L. VINCENT.

HOW TO HAVE A GOOD FARM GARDEN

If the soil is one of clay, and has not been underdrained, the best thing to do this fall is to put on a heavy coating of well-rotted barn-yard manure, and plow or spade it in so that it will be well intermixed with the soil. Should the ground slope to the west, plow or throw the land up into sharp ridges, the tops of which should be four feet apart. The ridges should run from east to west, the object being to have the south side exposed to the full rays of the sun very early in the spring.

For an extra early crop of potatoes, peas, beans, etc., take a spade and throw out the dirt on the south half of the ridges, and cover the things planted with the richest, dark-colored soil that may be at hand. The north half of the ridge should remain undisturbed, so as to shelter the young



plants on the south side, and in case the nights are very cold, or there is real danger from an unexpected frost, the plants can be easily and quickly covered with large sheets of the daily or weekly newspapers, and the plants thus be effectually protected. Whenever the mercury in the thermometer falls as low as thirty-four degrees the plants should be covered immediately.

After the plants are well established and two or three inches in height scatter enough nitrate of soda along each side of the plants to give the soil a grayish appearance, and work it into the surface-soil, being very careful, however, not to use too much nitrate, and to keep it from coming in contact with the stems or roots of the plants.

A prominent feature of the annual fall work done in the grounds of the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., in order to properly prepare the soil for the growing of beautiful flowers and luxuriant-foliaged ones, is the intermingling of a heavy coat of well-rotted manure with the soil in each of the beds in which flowering plants, potted roses or bulbs are to be planted the coming season. W. M. K.

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Our advice is to get your order in early, and any one finding that we have misrepresented this picture in any way may have their money back and the picture a present.

Some one is going to get our check for $100.00 for a name for this New Picture. See page 18.

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In the Field

A SEED-BUYER in a recent issue of the "Grain Dealers' Journal" says: "Don't examine seed in the hand, as it generally looks better than when examined in the cover of a paper box which is of any other color than white. Shake well, and examine the contents, as it is an easier way of discovering brown seed, dirt or foreign substances than by wetting the fingers and ascertaining the condition of the seed in that way." * * *

CRIMSON CLOVER

Seldom in the history of this section of Virginia has there been such a fine stand of Crimson clover as that which now covers the ground with its beautiful green. The circumstances which have enabled the farmers to procure this valuable stand are cool weather from middle summer, plenty of rain and a very late, warm fall. The clover was not injured in its early efforts, nor have heavy frosts injured its late growth. I have about eight acres, sown between corn-rows, for late fall and spring grazing. The stand is good, and the growth has been more than was expected. The seed was sown late in August and during the first days of September. It was my intention to sow the seed in July, but a drought prevented it.

In this latitude the following points are worthy of consideration: Protection to the young plants during excessive heat or dry spells. The young plants cannot stand any scorching; for this purpose nothing is better than sowing buckwheat with the clover. Likewise the plants should be of good size before heavy frosts set in. When the roots are well set with bacteria the plants will get nitrogen from the air. Besides, young plants cannot stand cold nearly as well as well-grown ones. Of course, when circumstances hinder the seeding of the clover early, risks may well be taken until the end of September here in Virginia, though the fall and very early spring grazing will be lacking.

I notice the roots of my clover-plants are well supplied with bacteria balls, which is a good sign for a vigorous spring growth. I have one patch of Crimson clover which is fully eight inches high at this writing (November 6th). Any one can see what a help a few acres of such growth will be in the feeding line, and how the growth will protect the soil and lock up plant-food, to be handed over to succeeding crops when the plants rot the coming season.

Throughout those sections where the springs are late, and cold, damp weather prevails—putting the stock in such a bad condition—early green pasturage is very necessary, and nothing short of costly silos will take its place.

Those who are interested in bees will be glad at the greatly increased acreage of Crimson clover. There are few plants which afford better bee pasturage.

ALBERT D. WARNER.

CLOVER AND ITS BACTERIA

The main object in view in the preparation of this bulletin is to call the attention of Canadian farmers to the very practical and convincing results which have been obtained at the Central Experimental Farm, in increased crops, by the plowing under of green clover. This practice has been found to increase the crops for several successive seasons. Similar experiments have been tried on the branch experimental farms, with good results, and reports have reached us from many farmers who have followed with much profit the teaching of the experimental farms in this respect. There seems no reason to doubt that if this method of fertilizing the land were more generally adopted, a considerable increase might be had in the average production of the more important farm crops at very little cost. The experiments conducted at Ottawa have been so planned as to realize the greatest advantages from the clover without interfering with the regularity of the farmers' crops.

These experiments were begun on the Central farm in the spring of 1894, when a field was sown with a variety of two-rowed barley (Canadian Thorpe), and at the same time seeded with Mammoth Red clover at the rate of twelve pounds an acre. After the barley was harvested the clover grew rapidly and made a good stand before winter. It was allowed to grow until the following season. By the third week in May, about the time when such a crop should be plowed under for the planting of Indian corn or potatoes, the clover was quite heavy. On May 25th a box one foot square inside and four feet deep was sunk to its full depth in this crop, and by lifting it carefully a fair section of the plants and roots was obtained. On washing away the earth, some of the roots were found to extend down fully four feet, and had thus been able to feed on the stores of fertility existing in the lower depths of the subsoil, beyond the reach of most other crops, and to transfer and utilize these in building up the stalks and leaves. The green leaves and stems in the sample taken were separated from the partly decayed leaves about the base, and also from the roots, and each weighed and analyzed separately. The proportion of nitrogen in pounds an acre found in the different parts of the crop was as follows:

	LBS. AN ACRE
Green leaves and stems	101.3
Semi-decayed material on surface	22.5
Roots to a depth of four feet	48.5
Total nitrogen	172.3

While the plowing under of a growing crop of clover furnishes the soil, as already stated, with a large amount of organic matter, much of which is subsequently converted into humus, it is evident from the above figures that there is another and still more important part which clover plays in enriching the land—that is, by adding nitrogen. Clover is a plant which belongs to the class of legumes, and these have that remarkable property of being able to take a large proportion of the nitrogen they need for their growth from the air. The careful researches of many eminent scientific investigators have shown that the legumes obtain nitrogen from the air found in the interstices between the particles of soil, through the agency of certain micro-organisms present in the soil. These bacteria, whose special function is the assimilation of free nitrogen, attach themselves to the roots of growing clover or other legumes, forming thereon small nodules, or tubercles. These nodules, swarming with their countless inhabitants, are to be found in sizes varying from a pin-head to a pea, and frequently scattered in large numbers over the roots of the plant. The nitrogen taken in by these microbes and converted into soluble compounds is used by the clover and stored in the tissues of the roots, stems and leaves. The legumes to which clover belongs are especially rich in nitrogen, and though we are unable to say exactly what proportion of this element is taken by them from the air, we may be sure that under favorable conditions the greater part is from that source.

The chief value of plowing under a crop of clover lies, then, in the addition of humus and its associated mineral plant-food and in the addition of nitrogen. By the subsequent decay in the soil of the turned-under clover, these constituents are converted into available food for future use for farm crops and fruits. While the growth and harvesting of other crops leaves the soil poorer in nitrogen, the growth of clover, even when the crop has been harvested and only the roots left, leaves the soil invariably richer in this constituent.—Bulletin No. 40 of Central Experimental Farm, Canada.

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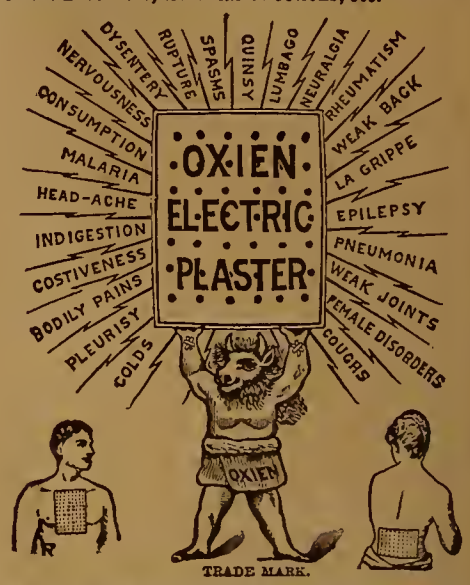

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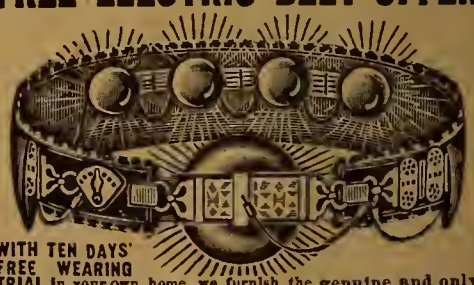

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Gardening

By T. GREINER

MOLES IN THE GARDEN.—A reader asks how to get rid of moles. I know of no better plan than trapping the moles by good traps well and persistently set. It requires some skill in setting such traps, and not a little patience. It is true that moles often come from adjoining lands nearly as fast as caught, yet I have seen many cases where the large number of moles in a garden or lawn was reduced so materially by persistent trapping that the animal came near to the point of entire disappearance.

KILLING BERMUDA GRASS.—A lady reader in Arkansas says her garden is overrun with Bermuda grass, and that she has been fighting it for six years with indifferent success. How to get rid of it is the question. I have had some experience with this grass in a potato-patch on rented ground, but I have to give the problem up. Repeated plowing and harrowing in hot weather might subdue it. In the garden I would plant my vegetables in the usual manner, and then keep the grass down by means of the hand wheel-hoe and common hoe. It would be comparatively easy to kill it out in a celery-patch where the old earthing-up method of blanching celery is practised. What advice have readers who have had experience with this grass to offer?

SUMMER SQUASHES.—A reader asks me whether I use summer squashes as trap-plants for the squash-borer. I don't have to, as I have not seen a squash-plant destroyed by borers in my gardens here for years. The borer seems to be entirely absent. Our friend (in Ohio) says he planted most of his winter squashes on June 1st. He applied three pints of kerosene emulsion to fifty hills every two or three days between July 15th and August 5th. He also had an early planting of Bush Scallop squashes. A few borers appeared in the unsprayed portion of the winter squashes, while the summer squashes which were not sprayed were nearly eaten up. I still believe that the free use of tobacco-dust about the squash-plants in each hill will keep the borers away.

EARLY PLANTS.—A lady reader in South Norwalk, Conn., being in poor health, would like to make a little money selling early plants. She knows little about the business, and thinks of starting the plants from seed in boxes in the house. First of all she should procure a supply of suitable soil—fibrous loam or a rich, sandy muck being best. Next she should get some flat boxes, say three or four inches deep, not too large for convenient handling, and all she has room for in a sunny window. The boxes are filled with the prepared soil, and the seed sown in shallow rows across the boxes. Egg-plant and tomato seeds should be sown from March 1st to March 15th; peppers a little later. As early in spring as possible prepare some frames outdoors, cover well with hot-bed sash (some spare windows may do in an emergency), and fill with good, fibrous loam. Pick out the plants from the boxes, and set into the frames, say in rows three inches apart and one or two inches apart in the rows. Open in the daytime, according to weather conditions; close at night, and secure by extra covering against damage during frosty nights. As the season advances the plants may have to be transplanted and given more room. If you can raise good plants, as is possible in this way, the neighbors will likely want them at a fair price. This is about all that I could say in this place. For a lady in poor health and in need of additional income it may be worth while to try this plan.

Fruit-Growing

By S. B. GREEN

GUMMY PEACH-TREES.—S. P. Your peach-trees are gummy at the root probably from the fact that they are infested with borers. The best remedy is to do as you have done—that is, dig them out. The trees should be looked over several times in summer, so as to remove the borers before they have done serious work. You will undoubtedly find it of some help, if your trees are especially troubled, to keep the trunks coated with soft soap, in which has been mixed enough of quicklime to make it about the consistency of paint. This is not a sure preventive, but assists very much in keeping off mature insects. It will not kill the borers that are in the trees. The fruit on your peach-trees appears gummy probably from the fact that they are infested with the curculio. The best remedy for this is probably jarring the trees, the same as for plum-trees.

GRAPE-ROT.—F. F., Franks, Mo. It is hard to account sometimes for the coming and disappearance of fungus diseases and insect-pests. I am inclined to think that in your case I should account for the absence of grape-rot this year to the fact that last year the weather was so bright and dry that comparatively few spores were produced, and then, as you have been spraying for six years, you must have succeeded in bringing about conditions which were not good, to say the least, for the germination of the spores of grape-rot. I think, however, that you would be foolish to risk your crop next year without spraying, especially if we should have any considerable amount of warm, moist weather. You know how it is about rust on our grains, that occasionally we will have a year in which they are nearly exempt from it, and then a series of years in which it is very bad. It is the same with black rot on grapes.

BLACK WALNUTS.—W. R. M., Ellensburg, Wash. Black walnuts should be gathered in the autumn, mixed with about the same amount of leaves, and allowed to decay over winter. In the spring plant about two inches deep where they are to grow. I think it is generally best to plant three or four walnuts in one place, and then after they are started they can be thinned out to one tree in a place. The method of starting a plantation of walnuts would depend considerably upon the condition of the soil. If the land was good plow-land I would suggest that the nuts be planted about eight inches apart, in rows eight feet apart. In the case of stump land, or rough land, it is desirable to plant several nuts together at intervals of about ten or twelve feet. The best soil for the walnut is an open, porous, moist clay. About twenty-five years ago there was a great deal of talk about the profit from raising black-walnut lumber, but it has been found that the black-walnut wood does not take on the characteristic color which makes it so very valuable until it is at least fifty or sixty years old. Young trees of it have the wood more or less mottled, and thus are not desirable for lumber. The trunks of these young walnut-trees, however, will do very well for fence-posts. If there is a demand for the nuts in your vicinity I think it would be more profitable for you to plant them for the nuts. Under ordinary circumstances, in fifteen years a black-walnut tree should be six inches in diameter, and if properly crowded, twenty feet high. I do not know the present price of walnut lumber, but it is very high. In this vicinity they are digging up the stumps of old black-walnut trees that were cut off fifteen or twenty years ago, and using them for the manufacture of veneers and similar purposes.

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Live Stock and Dairy

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THE BELGIAN-HARE CRAZE ABOUT OVER

All foolish things usually soon run their course and are dropped. The fad or fashion for Belgian hares and their breeding had its day, but I do not think it was, or is, all a humbug. Having been so situated at one time that it was convenient to keep this animal, I bought a few, and tried their propagation and growth. My son then became enthused, and I feared he would become crazed with the business, but he did not quite reach that point. We never paid any fancy prices for breeders, nor did we try to sell any in that way. It is true that we sold some at fair prices to those who wanted them for making a start, and found the business moderately profitable in a small way. I always knew that there were a lot of sharpers in the trade, who asked enormous prices, and, I am sorry to know, got them. No one with good sense and ordinary means ought ever to have been fooled by any such scamps. There was, and now is, in my opinion, a legitimate and reasonable side to the question.

We had a country place, where we grew plenty of all kinds of garden-stuff and some farm crops. Of course, there were some weeds. Nearly everything that grew seemed to suit the taste of the hares. We gave them grains of all kinds in some measure. One thing that they liked and thrived on above all else was the leaves and tender bark of poplar-trees. We happened to have a row of Carolina poplars near our house, and it occurred to me that, as they needed topping, the brush would make good food for the hares. This proved eminently true, for they ate all but the wood, and it agreed with them wonderfully. There was almost no sickness among them after this discovery. It was also very cheap food. All we had to do was to cut off what brush they would need for a few days and give it to them, along with a little grain, weeds from the garden and any other stuff that might be suitable and convenient. They needed some water, but did not drink freely when they had green food. We found the hares as cheap and profitable meat as we could produce from other animals, and it is most delicious on the table. A writer in the "Rural New-Yorker" has lately stated that the flesh was not good in the summer. This is true of the old hares, but not of the young ones. We have never sat down to any better dish than that made from half-grown Belgian hares, well fried, no matter what time of year it might happen to be. We liked them stewed and in pot-pie fully as well. Our visitors who tried any of these dishes all pronounced them excellent. We never tried to sell any hares on the produce market, because we did not care to do it, but we could have afforded to do so for about the same price a pound as chickens, and my wife says for less. We have eaten hundreds of wild rabbits (and some jack-rabbits among them) at our house, but we prefer the hares to all except those about half grown and not mangled by shot. As a matter of interest to the boys and for those who are situated so as to give a little time and care to keeping them, the Belgian hare may be made a source of profit and pleasure, but only in a moderate way.—H. E. Van Deman, in the Rural New-Yorker.

BARLEY AND BARLEY STRAW FOR FEEDING

At this season of the year this is a question that is sure to come to the front: Is barley a good feed for stock, and is there danger of barley-beards accumulating in the mouth and throat of animals that eat the straw, and do them injury? I will relate some of my experience with barley for nearly thirty years, and then let the reader judge for himself how far it is a good feed and whether the straw is hurtful. For all stock but sheep the grain should be ground, as it is very hard, and some of it will pass undigested if not ground. The teeth of sheep are set differently in the jaw from the teeth of other animals, and nothing escapes mastication by them. At first barley appears to be unpalatable to swine; but this is soon overcome by mixing with it for a while some other kind of ground grain. Two or three weeks' feeding thus is sufficient to put them on full barley feed. Barley is not constipating to any stock, like corn. My first experience with feeding barley to pigs, when a strict account was kept, was about twenty years ago, with a pen of seventeen fall pigs, which were weighed in and weighed out. The feeding commenced in October and closed in March. The pigs were fed only barley-meal moistened with house slops, consisting in some measure of skim-milk and dish-water. Barley was then forty-eight cents a bushel. Feeding it to the pigs, it paid us one dollar and twelve cents a bushel, the pigs bringing an unusually high price in spring. The animals were confined to a close, well-boarded pen, and given clear drinking-water twice a day. Horses and cows were fed ground barley only when we happened to be short of other grain feed, and they ate it readily. But barley seems to be a great favorite of sheep. Our winter grain feed for them was always barley. In fact, we wintered them entirely on barley straw and about a handful each of barley once a day. I never wintered sheep better, and to-day, if I had sheep and barley and barley straw, I never would feed them anything else. One cent's worth of the grain a day is sufficient. I wintered a flock of thirty lambs in a separate shed on barley straw and less than one cent's worth of barley a day, and when spring opened a butcher wanted to buy them, they looked so nice. He thought they had been fed purposely to fatten them. They need to be fed about a third more straw than they will eat up clean, for they reject the coarse butts. I do not know but other straw and grain would do as well. Others here are wintering sheep on this principle every winter. The animals eat the chaff, leaves, tips, "thimbles," and leave only the very coarse butts. I have found the straw of barley to be the best straw for feeding any stock. It is soft; there is nothing harsh or repulsive about it. As we always grew a large breadth of barley, usually fifteen to twenty-five acres, we had not barn-room to store all the straw, and a large stack of it was made in the barn-yard for cattle and an aged horse or two and often some young cattle to "pick at" when they chose. It was the habit of the old horses to monopolize the spot next the barn door, where the "carrier" of the thresher extended out to convey the straw onto the stack. The bulk of the barley-beards sifted through the carrier and fell on the stack next the barn. This made it the favorite feeding-place of all the stock, but the old horses were masters of the situation. They chose the beards in preference to the straw. When they had got their "fill" they would move away, and other stock would take their places. Toward spring they would have a wide hole eaten into the center of the stack. When they had eaten away so much that the stack was liable to topple over, a fence was built around it, and straw for the stock was daily thrown into the yard from the stack. Now, in all my years of this annual experience there was not a single case of injury to the mouth of stock by an accumulation of barley-beards sticking in the flesh. Such a thing was never seen here. People are often cautioned by the press of the danger to stock of barley-beards. A correspondent once did so here. Compared with corn as a feed, barley is worth eight per cent less.—Dr. Galen Wilson, in the Practical Farmer.

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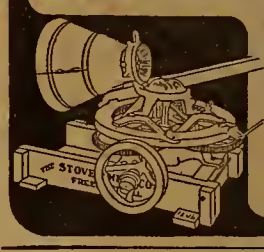
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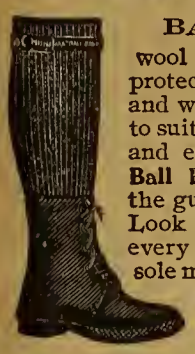

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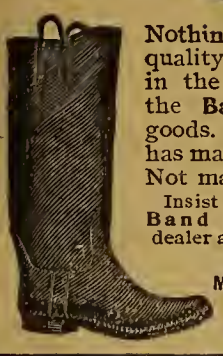

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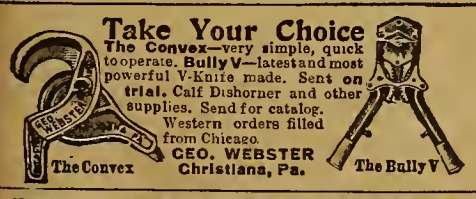

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Live Stock and Dairy

WHAT MAKES A COW A GOOD ONE?

A FEW years ago I raised a heifer calf that seemed to promise well. Her ancestry was good, and as she had all the appearance of being herself worthy of raising I gave her a chance for her life. She had nothing in the line of pedigree behind her, but was just a plain, every-day sort of creature, bearing the marks of a good calf. About the same time I had a chance to buy a heifer calf that started out with the advantage of a pedigree. Her father and mother were registered, and she herself was of course eligible to be registered. But as I did not care particularly about the registration, I paid the price asked—twelve dollars—and brought her home to grow up with my little bantling of the common blood. The two made good progress, and in the process of time became cows. The full-blood cow was as fine an animal as one might care to see. The other was not especially handsome, being of such a mixed gray and red that I called her "Frosty." But that homely cow was always the favorite of the yard, and she was by many odds the better cow of the two. She gave richer milk, and taking the season through she gave about as much of it as her high-toned companion. These facts proved to me that breeding does not always make the good cow. I would rather have, for myself, a cow that gave good, rich milk, and enough of it, than one that possessed a long name, but little to back it.

Now, this is not saying one word against the cow of good ancestry. There should be something in good breeding—no doubt there is more than we understand—and for the man who cares particularly about herdbooks and that sort of thing registration is all right. He gets a certain satisfaction out of that that other folks do not, and he ought to follow the plan which will enable him to enjoy his business to the highest possible extent. But it does not follow, however, that all the rest of us ought to fall in with all his pet notions. One man prefers one breed, one another. Every one must be fully persuaded in his own mind, then we will all reach the top round of success. The stock we love best we will care for best, and care means success.

E. L. VINCENT.

THE PACKERS' COMBINATION

For several months there have been rumors of a consolidation of the interests of the leading live-stock slaughterers who now furnish the market that fixes the prices of our cattle, hogs and sheep. The prices have been fixed, at least in large degree, by demand and supply, although there can be no doubt that an "understanding" has existed among the leading packers that has restricted competition somewhat. But a combination of the packers, merging all their interests into a single concern, would apparently wipe out all competition for a time, and the proposal has been a startling one to producers of animals and to consumers of meat and its by-products. It is now reported by the press that the combine has been incorporated, and that the terms of agreement have been made among the packers. The public announcement of the merger and the floating of the stocks of the mammoth concern await a favorable financial opportunity.

It is not a matter of astonishment that the packing-houses should take this course. Other industries have done so, usually with great immediate profit to those forming the combine. The capitalization is based upon the profits during one or two years of extraordinary prosperity, and by such a method a manufacturing concern can be made to appear to be worth twice as much as it really is when the profit for a term of years is considered. We have had in the past, and will have in the future, these years of unusual activity, succeeded by years of dullness and depression. The world's work is done by spurts, and we must go back to averages for a true index of earning power.

The novice in such affairs may wonder wherein comes the gain from such extreme overestimation of the value of the manufacturing-plants in any industry when the owners combine. There would be none if the present owners remained the sole owners, but such is not the case. A strong financial firm is secured to float the stock of the combine, putting upon the market no more shares of stock than can be marketed at a satisfactory price. The original owners usually plan to retain a little over half of the voting-stock, remaining in the business because their experience is needed to make the business go. If they can unload upon the public something near one half of the stock of the combine at double its intrinsic value, estimating that upon the profits from a long series of years, they have gotten about all their money out of their old investments, and yet remain owners of one half of them. Enthusiasm, faith in the future, and the gambling instinct lead outsiders to invest, and they will get a fair interest on their money until the inevitable dull era cuts profits and sends a big load of stocks in over-capitalized combines crashing upon the market. Then the original owners have their millions of money safe, and can reorganize their old industries on any safe basis they may choose, big gainers no matter what happens.

But it is the direct effect of a packers' combination upon the prices of our animals that interests us most. On the face of things it would seem to give them absolute control, but such control is more apparent than real. A squeeze should be expected for a short time, in order that a good net profit may be shown to maintain price of the combine's shares until the allotted amount is unloaded upon the public; but afterward it would be against their interest to make the margin between the price of animals on foot and those on the hook too great, as it would foster outside competition. Having disposed of their allotted number of shares in the overcapitalized concern, they would not use their power to make profits in slaughtering abnormally great by refusing to pay a fair price for live stock. Such a course would bring outside capital into the slaughtering business with a rush. That is the situation in the steel industry to-day. Not half the steel is made by the great trust, the outside production increasing at a prodigious rate. So long as the demand remains unusual all is well, but when the new owners of bankrupt roads cease investing money in improvements—a day that must come—the steel trust will find its overcapitalization a load that it cannot carry. Its promoters will be all right, because they are unloading upon outsiders as fast as the market will stand it, and getting all their money out of their concerns while remaining half-owners; but the outside competition must drive any overcapitalized concern to the wall in time.

Predictions are not highly valuable, but there is no reason to think that a packers' combine will try to increase the margin of profit at the expense of producers for any length of time. Its promoters do not want others to erect big packing-houses, and this would be done quickly if great advantage was taken of producers and consumers by depressing the prices of animals and raising the prices of the products of the packing-houses. After the disposal of the shares that are to be marketed during these flush times it is to the interest of the packers to deal with the public with reasonable fairness. It will be that or else outside competition. Shrewd capitalists would not permit any other condition of affairs.

In time the public will awake to the fact that the greatest confidence-game in the world's history has been played upon it by floating the shares of combines whose capitalization was based upon abnormal earnings during a rush of activities. Many of the buyers, however, are not deceived, but are following their speculative instincts, proposing to unload upon others when the first sign of dullness is apparent.

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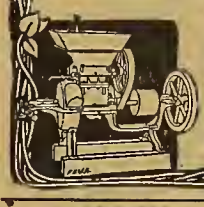

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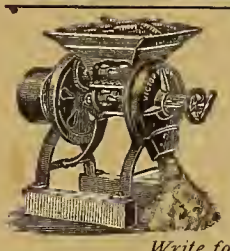

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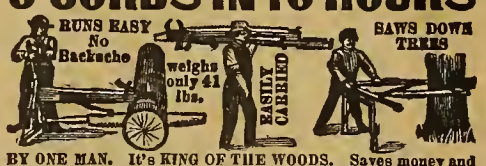

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Poultry-Raising

By P. H. JACOBS

EGGS FOR HATCHING

It is customary to use eggs for hatching from any source from whence they can be procured, but the result is always a mixed lot of chicks—some weak, some strong, some large, some small—no uniformity existing. It is very important to use eggs only from stock that is healthy, strong and vigorous. If attention is given this matter there will be less loss among the breeds, and a larger proportion of chicks will be raised. Endeavor always to secure fresh eggs, but let them be from stock of good quality and full of vigor.

WARMTH SAVES FOOD

A warm poultry-house in winter is the cheapest, because shelter saves food. The hen, like a stove, consumes fuel which creates heat, and until the body is thoroughly warm the food will not be diverted to egg-production. In our dwelling-houses we conserve the heat from the stove by the use of plastered walls, tight windows and carpeted floors. If the cold air was permitted to enter freely it would cause an expense for an enormous amount of coal. If we do not provide warm quarters for the fowls we must give more food, and even then it may be impossible to counteract the effects of the cold air.

THE YARDS

More attention given to the poultry-yards by farmers would add essentially not only to the comfort of themselves and families, but also to the aggregate of their annual farm-profits. Without any particular effort or any extra building or yards, from fifty to one hundred fowls may be kept on every farm of twenty acres, and the contributions they will make in eggs and chickens to the product sold will amount in the end to a very handsome sum. It is true that to be made a source of profit they must receive attention, the eggs must be gathered daily, two or three hens must not (as is frequently the case) be allowed to sit on one nest, coops must be provided for the chickens as they are hatched, and they, as well as any other domestic animals, must be carefully looked after.

GEESE AND THE HOLIDAYS

This is the holiday season, and young geese will be in demand. Sell the young ones, and keep the old geese for breeding. A good feed of mashed potatoes thickened with ground oats is the best food for young geese until they are nearly ready for market, when they should be confined for a week, and fed on corn and corn-meal. If the grass becomes dried up it should be the aim to give the geese a mess of chopped clover. Cut the clover into short lengths, pour boiling water over it at night, then cover with a piece of cloth, and allow the clover to steep over night. In the morning take out the clover, sprinkle with meal, and feed to the geese. The water, which will be a decoction of clover, may be used for mixing soft food for other fowls.

ADVANTAGES OF USING MILLET-SEED

Millet-seed is now one of the standard foods for both fowls and chicks, and it is about as cheap as wheat. Millet-seed contains more oil than corn, but less starch, and is also more nitrogenous. The advantage in its use is that as the seeds are so very small each hen is compelled to eat slowly, and must also perform considerable work before she can secure a full meal of the seeds. Such method of feeding the fowls brings them nearer the natural conditions required, as a portion of the food will be digested slowly and entirely before all of the seed is eaten. By scattering a quart of millet-seed in litter (such as cut straw, leaves or earth) for fifteen hens in the morning they should be amply supplied until night, when a full meal of grain and other foods may be given for the finish of the day. Hens so kept will give better results than if fed three times daily.

FOOD AND PRODUCTION

Each breed has certain advantages. In experiments made with several breeds it was found that results vary according to the size and age. The Dorkings laid one hundred eggs each a year, the average weight of the eggs being two ounces, or eight to the pound. The food eaten each day was five ounces, or about one hundred and thirteen pounds for the year. This was heavy feeding, and consisted of a variety of grain and grass, being over one pound of food for each egg; but it must be considered that a large portion of the food was directed to growth, as the record was kept from the first six months of age to eighteen months. The birds were also kept over winter, when a large amount of food was directed to heat. The production of eggs was good, but as the birds were forced the cost was excessive, though the cocks had made eight pounds growth when six months old. The Dorkings pay better as superior table-fowls than as layers.

CHICKS IN BROODERS

Very young chicks nearly always seek warmth; but as they grow they get further off from the heat, one portion of the brooder sometimes being warm one night and another portion the next. Bowel-disease indicates that the chicks have been chilled at some time. It also happens that in the attempt to give plenty of warmth to the floor it becomes too warm, and thus affects the legs. A thermometer will be of assistance if there is a location for one in a brooder. Watch the chicks when they go into the brooder at night. If they spread out they are warm enough; if they crowd together they need more warmth. Use cut straw on the floor of the brooder. It is an excellent plan to weigh the chicks every week, and observe their increase. Take ten chicks, or even adults, from among the whole number, weigh them every week, and keep an account of the exact amount of food consumed, and more will be known regarding the matter of expense, profit and ratio of grain in proportion to cost than could be derived in any other manner. Experiments with different kinds of food could also easily be made, and chicks of several breeds could be used for comparison. It would take but a small proportion of time, while the knowledge gained would be invaluable.

HENS NOT LAYING.—Mrs. B. D., Elizabethtown, N. M., states that "she has forty hens, but they have not laid since July. She fed wheat all summer, gave milk, and allowed free range. They have just finished molting." The probability is that they ceased laying while undergoing the process of molting. They may also be in an overfat condition.

LIMBER NECK.—H. W. L., Boston, Ky., asks "what to do for the limber-neck disease among his fowls." He gives no detail of management. It is probable that they consume worms or maggots from some source, which is usually the cause of the difficulty. The remedy recommended by those who have had experience in such cases is water sweetened with molasses.

DISTINGUISHING TURKEYS.—Mrs. L. A. W. wishes to know "how to distinguish old turkey-hens from the young ones, as they all seem alike to her. She wishes to retain the old hens another year." Some experience is necessary. The young hens have brighter plumage and cleaner legs; the bills and toes are more flexible when handled; they are not as full in body, and are more active in disposition.

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The Grange

By MRS. MARY E. LEE

THE OBSERVATORY

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Work for the betterment of your own community, and do it now.

First clean out the trash in thine own yard, then canst thou see clearly to clean out the debris of thy neighbor's yard.

The man who is indifferent to the welfare and comfort of his fellow-men will find a reflection of his own mean spirit in others.

The spirit that refuses the inspiration and comfort the moments give will find the hours yield but little hope and happiness. True happiness comes not at any particular period of life, but is scattered impartially throughout.

PROBLEMS IN AGRICULTURE

That there are deeper problems in agriculture than the raising of crops and stock and the marketing of the same, with the occasional concrete example of some legislative demand, our more thoughtful farmers acknowledge. The increase of education along the lines of production, all things considered, has been marvelous. It gives us hope for the future solution of the deeper problem of man's relation to the state, to the times in which he lives, and to those future days when his influence, be it good or bad, shall yet work. The farmer realizes that beneath his occasional demands there are fundamental principles to be grasped before ultimate good can be obtained. He realizes that his occasional statements of rights to be secured are but manifestations of a deeper law than any enacted by man. There is a vague feeling of uneasiness that he may be premature or out of order in his demands; that in a short time he will find the victories he has so hardly won were scarce worth fighting for; that a vast deal of energy was expended in securing only half measures. In a hazy way he feels that there are shorter cuts for arriving at the same ends for which he struggles and never fully arrives; that it would be easier and better to establish a principle, rather than a concrete example of that principle. True, he cannot, will not, stop battling for the right as he sees it; but he realizes that the hardest battle is a personal one against the terrible darkness of ignorance.

There is a peculiar fascination for thoughtful minds in social science, particularly in that phase termed political economy. The understanding of the laws of political economy are coming to be as essential to the farmer as the knowledge of the science of the production of crops and stock-feeding. That it will prove as interesting, no one who knows the fondness of our most intelligent farmers for erudite subjects will deny. Mills' "Political Economy" is generally accepted as the standard in our colleges. Probably the abridged edition, with critical and explanatory notes by J. Laurence Laughlin, will find the heartiest acceptance. That other classic, Adam Smith's "Wealth of Nations," has not been displaced by modern writers. Richard T. Ely's "Introduction to Political Economy" is written in a popular vein. Herbert Spencer states what is coming to be the accepted belief on sociological and ethical questions. To the earnest student we would recommend the study of these writers. It will cost many hours of sleep, wear deep sinus in the gray matter, and if the spirit of investigation gains ascendancy, convert many useless hours into ones of deep significance. But every one who reads and understands will become a beacon-light. What is of more worth, he will have fitted himself for a better study of those deep questions that are pressing themselves home upon the farmer.

"POLITICS"

It is six o'clock, and the polls are closed. The campaign in many local instances has been sharp and bitter. Acrimonious attacks on the private character of good citizens have been freely made. They usually remained unanswered. Men who have won for themselves reputations for honorable, upright living have been accused of dishonesty and little contemptible tricks that are beneath the notice of upright men. Real issues are lost sight of, and the contest descends simply into a struggle for supremacy between two factions. Fortunate indeed were it if the fight could lay between the two sets of men, bent on feeding at the public crib and incidentally filling an office.

The lamentable fact is, however, that neighborhood quarrels are freshened, old wounds opened and new ones made, the evilest passions of men's natures appealed to, to make capital for one side or the other. When one complains of this disheartening state of affairs he is met by the grim rejoinder that "it's politics." If the matter is pressed home with the question, "To what will this lead?" the answer is, "Our best men will refuse to run for office."

We tried to get So-and-so to run for representative. You know he is an upright, honorable man, capable of filling the office with credit to himself and district. He answered, "I have tried to live an upright life and leave my children the legacy of an honorable name. I know that the nomination is equivalent to election, but to secure the nomination I must run the gauntlet of the vilest and most ferocious attacks upon my personal integrity, by men I would not allow entrance to my home. I am an old man. My grandchildren believe in me. I would not destroy their confidence for all the honors a term in the legislature could confer. I could not live down, in the years naturally allotted to me, the doubts and misgivings that would rise in them."

When still further urged on his duty to the state he sadly replied, "Were I younger I might undertake it, but not now, not now. There are young men. Elect them."

The response of this noble man, since laid to rest, has urged me to ask many other men why they did not go into politics. The answers are materially the same.

The other day a little girl came from school, crying as if heart-broken. Amid her sobs she told me of what she had heard at school of the dishonorable traits of a dearly loved and trusted friend. At first she could not believe the charges, but alleged proof was forthcoming to sustain them. It was the first rude shock to her childish, implicit confidence and belief in humanity; yea, in all things true and holy and good. It is a disgrace and a deep national calamity that these things should be. It is a sad commentary on the moral condition of a community that will tolerate such ruthless onslaughts on the character of respected citizens. It is a moral canker eating into the hearts and minds of every child and adult. For no matter how strongly we battle against acceptance of the falsities, some time they will return to us with startling force.

Let every one anxious for the highest good of our people discountenance such vicious and unwarranted attacks, else he must face the time when good men will refuse to enter the political field. Furthermore, let there go up such a vigorous protest at coming elections against the funds and the political management being placed in the hands of unscrupulous leaders as to make these charges an impossibility. Most of them originate in the bar-room, where disreputables congregate and forge ammunition for the campaign. Oh, the disgrace of it, that men of integrity and worth should follow the leadings of these charlatans!

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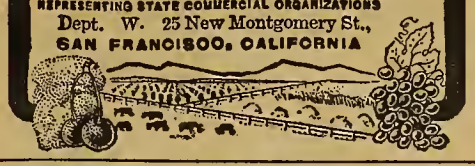

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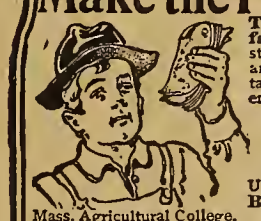

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Around the Fireside

RIVER TO PUMP ITS OWN WATER

This is possible, according to investigations made by the United States Geological Survey, concerning the Kings River of central California. The valley through which this river runs is one of the richest in the West, the profits from raisin-growing alone amounting to over two million dollars in 1900. Nearly four hundred thousand acres are now under cultivation. This is about all the water from the Kings River is capable of moistening. However, it is believed that a large additional supply of water can be secured from wells sunk in the lower part of the valley, where the seepage collects. The water from these will be pumped by electricity generated from a plant operated by water-power from the Kings River itself. The plant will be located in the upper valley, and the electricity transmitted to the lower part to operate the pumps. It is estimated that over two hundred thousand more acres of valuable land can be brought under cultivation by this plan.—Maxwell's Talisman.

WHAT IS BIRD'S-EYE MAPLE?

"What is bird's-eye maple?" That is a question which just now seems to be baffling not only people who use furniture made of this particular wood, but even woodworkers themselves. In a recent number of a woodworking magazine an article was published which stated that bird's-eye maple was not a peculiar maple, but simply ordinary maple cut in a certain way. In a recent issue of the New York "Sun" that statement is refuted. It is there stated, on the authority of a woodworker, that bird's-eye maple and curly maple are both cut only from the logs of the rock-maple tree, "Acer saccharinum," in which a beautiful lustrous grain is produced by the sinuous course of the fibers. This tree is not at all the common hard maple. It is a hard maple, but it is full of little gnarls, called eyes. Men looking for bird's-eye maple logs go through the standing timber and pick out the bird's-eye maple trees, paying for them from thirty dollars to fifty dollars a thousand feet in the woods. Ordinary hard-maple logs are worth only from six dollars to seven dollars a thousand feet. It would be impossible to cut a piece of veneer with eyes in it from a common hard-maple log, and it would be equally impossible to cut a bird's-eye maple log, no matter how you cut it, so that it would not show the eyes.—The Scientific American.

THE DURATION OF A HORSE'S AFFECTION

The affections of a horse are not inferior to his intellectual qualities, and if made a pet he becomes very fond of his master. In case of separation, he remembers him for years. But his affection is different from that of a dog, which continues to love his master even though the latter abuses him greatly. Rough, unkind treatment will quickly estrange the affection of a horse. Good horse sense discovers no particular reason why a horse should be devoted to a master who habitually maltreats him.

The intellect and affections of a horse point out two things so important to a trainer that he must bear them in mind until they become fixed habits of thought.

One of these things is, Never under any circumstances allow a horse to successfully oppose his will to yours. If you do, he will remember it and (reasoning by experience) try it again.

The other is, Always keep his affection. If he dislikes you he has no wish to please you, and if his obedience is always perfunctory you will make but little headway in training him.

These two points assured, he will almost invariably try to do whatever you require of him—if he only knows what it is. —David Buffum, in Success.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN AND THE CHINESE MANDARIN

When I was ready to start for Japan I had made up my mind to visit Shanghai on the way, and was about to start, when Canton merchants, native and foreign, tried to dissuade me. They told me that it would be terribly disappointing, and that I would regret wasting any time there. They did not know my nature, and were not aware that this sort of thing merely stimulated my curiosity and hardened my determination.

I took passage in the P. and O. boat the "Erin," Captain Jameson, and supposed, of course, that I should have a stateroom. But I was to meet with another Chinese surprise. A great Chinese mandarin, going from Hongkong to Shanghai, had engaged the whole cabin. I was very anxious to see this great personage, and soon had the opportunity. It is my practice when at sea to take exercise by walking rapidly up and down the deck, thus covering many miles a day. I was taking my daily exercise the day when the mandarin boarded the ship, and every time I passed the cabin I noticed that he followed me with his eyes. And so we kept it up for some time, I walking as unconcernedly as I could, and the great mandarin watching my movements as curiously as if I were some strange animal.

After a while he called the first officer, and asked what I was doing.

"Walking up and down the deck," he was told.

"But why does he do it? Is he paid for it?"

The officer told him it was for exercise.

"What is that?" asked the Chinese great man.

This was explained to him, and he could not understand why any one wanted to walk up and down and do so much unnecessary work. The Chinese are not averse to work; indeed, they are about the most industrious people on the face of the earth, but they do not do unnecessary work, having, I infer, to do about as much necessary work as is good for them. And this great dignitary pointed to me with scorn, and said, "Number one foola." I hardly need explain that "number one" throughout the East means the superlative degree.

This mandarin was the great Li-Hung-Chang, who had been summoned by his Emperor to save the country from the terrible Tai-ping rebellion. He was on his way from Canton to Shanghai. He had called in the splendid services of three great foreigners—the Frenchman Bougevine, the American Ward and the Englishman "Chinese" Gordon. But it was largely and chiefly due to the stubbornness and genius of Li that the empire was saved to the Manchus, at a cost, it is estimated, of millions of lives.—New York Times.

STARVED TO COLLECT ANTIQUES

An aged Frenchman in threadbare clothes, not only of the fashion, but of the actual production, of the year 1860, dodged all his countrymen through many years in Rome. A few of these knew that his name was Auguste Dutuit, and he was known to be so desperately stingy that the opinion gained currency that he was rich. Through an old woman servant some prying people also ascertained that the old man was starving himself to death for the want of decent food that he could well enough afford to buy. But it took him a long time to complete the process—he was ninety years old when at last he gave up the ghost—and he lived in Rome very much in this way for sixty years, seeing generations of his curious countrymen come and go! When at last he did die the fact came out that he was a multi-millionaire—in francs—and had bequeathed to the city of Paris, his native city, a collection of pictures, medals, prints, manuscripts, bibelots, books and other things, valued at three million francs. And he had given not only these things, but money enough to install them, and property enough to take care of them and provide them with a curator and custodian; and also large bequests to the city of Rouen, where his parents came from, and to Marseilles, where he made most of his money. All these unsuspected years he had been spending, spending at Rome, to amass his collections, and saving, saving, in order that he might spend more largely. He provides in his will that the museum which he bestows on Paris shall be freely accessible to all the people. "Therefore all Paris rings now with the name of Auguste Dutuit, of whom it never heard before. But Paris wonders at a temperament which led a man to live thus scorned, despised, as a miserable self-torturing fool, for the sixty years that he spent in getting things together to add to its instruction and pleasure."—Harper's Weekly.

THE ASCENT

I.

"There was a brawling brook to gossip cheer—
When first the hill-path found the woods and led
Through cool, green glooms. The branches overhead
Touched friendly hands, and once a thrush sang near;
Then sudden stillness and the way climbed sheer
Up breathless stretches, through a shadowed space,
When hemlocks whispered, and then, face to face,
I stood with the last peak, far off and clear.

"I'll fling a splendid challenge, and to the breeze
I sped on, strong and eager, up the steep—
Behind me lay the forests hushed with sleep—
Above me, in its granite majesty,
Sphinx-like the peak through silent centuries
Met the eternal question of the sky."

THE SUMMIT

II.

"Victor at last—throned on the cragged height—
I scan the green steeps of the mountain-side
Where late I toiled. The forest lands stretch wide,
And in deep valleys farms gleam far and white,
Vistas of distance break upon my sight,
The peopled plain creeps to the sky's blue rim
Where new peaks gather substanceless and dim,
As half-remembered dreams at noon-time light.

"Between two silences my soul floats still
As any white cloud in this sunny air.
No sound of living breaks upon my ear,
No strain of thought—no restless human will—
Only the virgin quiet, everywhere—
Earth never seemed so far or heaven so near."

THE DARK

III.

"The shadow falls from Time's slow-passing wing—
The color burns to ashes in the west;
The last light fades along the darkened crest,
And night takes still possession, like a king.
In the near fields of sky are blossoming
The white stars in a shining multitude;
It seems my hand might pluck them, if it would—
All flower-like in their close companioning.

"The valleys fade in dark—the woods recede;
A swift wind, fresh from space, blows keen and cold;
In the awed silence of this dim, high place
One keeping vigil might not fear, indeed,
If it befall him as that man of old,
Who in the mountain met God, face to face."

—Arthur Ketchum, in Ainslee's.

The Housewife

SOME PHILOSOPHY

We wonder and we wonder
  What's ahead;
What we'll see and how we'll see it
  When we're dead;
If it's worth the while or worthless,
  Foul or fair;
And we wonder how we'll know it
  When we're there.

We worry and we worry
  Over fate;
When we'll answer that conundrum—
  Soon or late.
What's the good to guess if it be
  Smooth or rough?
What's the use? We'll know the answer
  Soon enough.

We wonder and we wonder
  In the dark,
And we can't, with all our guessing,
  Raise a spark.
Let us, then, enjoy our living
  Ere we flit;
And the future, let us make the
  Best of it.

GOOD APPLE PIE

To make an apple pie in Colorado and have the apples cooked as well as the crust is more often a hard matter than one anticipates. Here is a recipe that, in its way, is new—at least it was to me, and perhaps will be to others. It makes a most delicious and palatable pie where otherwise the crust would be soggy and the apples not cooked. First cook your apples as in the ordinary way for sauce, well sweetened and put through a colander, and set them by to cool. Take one cupful of flour, sifted, one heaping tablespoonful of lard and a pinch of salt. Chop the shortening into the flour thoroughly with a knife, and do not put your hands in the mixture at all. After thoroughly mixing the flour and lard together add a pinch of baking-powder and enough water to make a dough that will roll well and not be sticky or too dry. Roll out your crusts, being careful not to roll thin at the edges, as this has a tendency to make the dough tough. Put your crust in the pan as you would for the bottom crust of an ordinary pie, put in the oven to bake, and put another crust in a second pan, baking the two crusts separately. After the crusts are baked put one on a plate, heaping the sauce on it to the thickness of about an inch, drop the second crust lightly on top of the sauce, and fill the second crust in the same manner, grating a little nutmeg on the top.

This is similar to the way some people make shortcake, but nevertheless it is a most delicious and palatable way of making pie in a country where the altitude governs cooking to a great extent, as it does in Colorado.

In this connection I wish to say that it is advisable to not handle pastry any more than is absolutely necessary, as it tends to destroy the lightness of it; hence the using of a knife to mix the flour and lard.

Neufchâtel cheese, if you like it, or whipped cream make nice additions to the pie. You can heat the pie if you prefer it hot, but it is mighty good cold. This recipe makes one pie.

W. D. Marsh.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RECREATIONS

Now, it may be that you people who live upon "terra firma instead of the mountains," as a woman once said, have had the following games ages ago, but it takes some things some time to reach this high altitude, you know.

Candle Hide-and-seek.—A piece of white paper is to be "in plain sight." One is sent from the room, then told to come in and find it. During his absence a white candle is brought in, the white paper wrapped around it, the candle lighted, and the other lights in the room turned low. When the finder comes in he finds it not very easy to see the white paper on the white candle, and much sport ensues.

Characteristics.—Six questions are to be written on as many slips of paper as there are guests. The questions are such as will bring out the characteristics of those answering them. "What is your favorite book? What is your idea of matrimony? How can the highest happiness be obtained? What do you think of the higher education for women? What has been, in your opinion, the greatest achievement of the age? What is a manly man and a womanly woman?" Each player writes his name on the paper he has, and hands it in. The answers are then read, and the guests guess who wrote them by the style of the answers. The "winner" is the one who guesses correctly the largest number.

Hunt the Penny.—"Nick" a penny so that little points will project from its edge. (You can do this with a sharp knife.) Press the penny forcibly against the surface of any furniture, and it will stick there. One who has been sent from the room is to now come in and find this penny. It is surprising how long some persons have to hunt before seeing the unoffending little copper.

The Candle Duel.—This game can only be indulged in by "grown-ups," as little children might become burned with the lighted candles. Two persons are blindfolded—a young lady and a young gentleman—but the handkerchief is to be so thin that they can see the light from the candles through it. Now the fun begins! They are to try to blow out their contestant's candle. Each player is carrying his candle in his left hand, with his right hand behind him. The lights in the room are turned low, that the glimmering candles may be the more readily discerned.

Hat-toss.—Have thin pieces of cardboard cut into slips three inches long and two inches wide. Mark five slips "1," five "2," five "3," and so on. Each player is to be given the five of the same number. Place a hat, crown downward, in the middle of the floor. Let the players form a circle around it, but not nearer than four feet from it. Then each in turn endeavors to toss one of the slips into the hat. Each slip that goes into the hat counts ten, the ones that stay on the brim count five, but those on the floor do not count at all. Any number that has been previously decided upon may be the game. The slips being numbered, each player can readily tell how many slips he has in the hat or on the brim. It adds to the amusement if sides are chosen and all the "tens" and "fives" on one side are pitted against those of the other side.

Ella Bartlett Simmons.

DIRECTIONS FOR SHOPPING-BAG

Sew thirty shoe-strings on a heavy pasteboard, fifteen on each side. To begin to knot, take two strings, form a loop with the right string over the left, take the left string under the right string, through the loop and under the left string, working all around the board. Begin second row, taking alternate strings. Work to the end of the string, and knot one string and slip the other through it, then use two strings for draw-strings. Line with silk.

Anna W.

GINGER APPLES

Two pounds of apple-quarters that have laid in the sunshine for at least ten hours to harden, two pounds of white sugar, one and one half pints of water, one ounce of ginger-root. Boil the sugar, water and ginger until a rich syrup is formed, then skim out the ginger, drop in the apple-quarters, and boil them in the syrup until transparent, but be careful not to let them break. Place the quarters carefully in self-sealing jars, pour over the boiling syrup, and seal immediately.

W. L. Tabor.

A MOST EXCELLENT SALVE

No better salve can be found than that made in the following manner: Take equal parts of spruce-gum (if near a spruce forest this can be procured without having to be purchased at the drug-store), beeswax and mutton tallow. Cook until it becomes dark and somewhat hard, and strain it through a wire strainer. When it has become cool (not cold) spread it on a greased cloth, and allow it to become entirely cold before putting away. When it is needed it is to be warmed and applied to the affected member. It has produced marvelous cures in cases of old sores of all descriptions, salt-rheum, scalds, burns, frost-bites and tender feet.

E. B. S.

SUGARED POP-CORN

Pop the corn over the hottest place on top of the kitchen stove—that is, when there is a good fire. After it is popped pick it over, rejecting the unpopped kernels. For every four quarts of the popped corn use one half cupful of sugar. Set it cooking with a little water; if much is used it will have to evaporate, and will therefore require longer cooking. Cook until the candy will string from the spoon, and then cook a little longer, to be sure that it will not be sticky. Have the corn in a large dish—a tin dish-pan is the best—pour the candy over the top of the corn in a small stream, and immediately stir it up from the bottom with a big spoon. Stir it around until it is all sticking together in a crumbly condition, then place it in the oven, leaving it there with the door open for a few minutes. When it has been taken out and cooled, what was before a sticky mass will now break apart and be dry and brittle. Some might like more sugar, but it is less cloying with the proportion given.

Susan Brown Robbins.

YOUR BIOGRAPHY

Here is your biography in a nutshell: "Born, welcomed, caressed, cried, fed, grew, amused, reared, studied, examined, graduated, in love, loved, engaged, married, quarreled, reconciled, suffered, mourned and forgotten."

POP-OVERS

Take one egg, one cupful of milk and a pinch of salt. Mix carefully, and put into a buttered pan; cook as long as for biscuits—twenty minutes—without opening the oven door.

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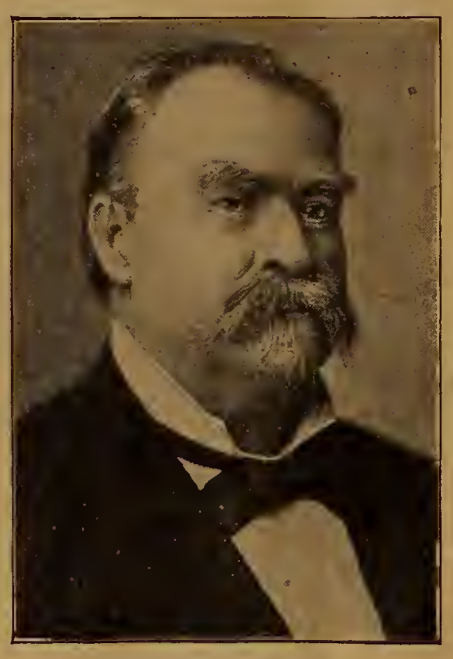
Belle Meade

By C. M. GINTHER

BELLE MEADE, the oldest horse-breeding establishment in America and one of the most famous in the world, has passed into history. For almost a hundred years Belle Meade has been the home of thoroughbreds, and has stood as the leader of all estates in this country devoted to the breeding of high-mettled racers. This peerless estate was famed all over the world before it became fashionable for multi-millionaires to own a horse-breeding establishment, and its prestige has not been disturbed by the stream of gold that flowed like water into the Kentucky blue-grass estates of men whose sole ambition in life apparently was to produce an international turf-winner. The fact that Belle Meade has sustained its great reputation in opposition to establishments founded and managed in imitation is proof of its high character. Its prestige has not been marred, and it has remained one of the greatest thoroughbred-breeding establishments in the world. Standing thus for years as the highest representative of breeding-establishments in the Western world, and sustaining itself ever in the first place, the end of the great farm is as pathetic as its long career has been brilliant.

Situated as it is near Nashville, Tenn., Belle Meade was one of the most aristocratic "plantations" that flourished under the old régime. It was the heart and center of a wide region, whose leading diversion was horse-racing, and where every citizen was imbued with the "racing instinct." Its precincts are almost classic in American annals. There is no spot in America where, in years gone by, so many great horses have held open court as at Belle Meade. The mighty Priam, the first great English-Derby winner imported into this country; the famous Vandal, imported Glencoe's best son; the marvelous imported Bonnie Scotland; Domino's grandsire, Enquirer; Iroquois, the only American-bred winner of the English Derby and St. Leger; Jack Malone; Sir Richard; John Morgan; Childe Harold; Highlander; the sensational Luke Blackburn; imported Great Tom, who left the public idol, Advance Guard; the cup-horse Bramble, sire of Ben Bush and Muggins, whose daughters produced so well, all were premiers at one time or another at the noted place, and all save Bramble are buried there, in the most extensive horse-cemetery in the world. This cemetery is one of the most interesting places on the great farm, and its counterpart probably does not exist elsewhere in the world. Each grave is as carefully tended as if it were the last resting-place of some person whose claim upon posterity was purchased with great service. A monument properly and handsomely inscribed marks the spot and describes the achievements of the deceased equine. Not only are the stallions that made the farm famous buried there, but Gamma, who dominated the turf in her day, and many producing dams find there a last resting-place.



GEN. W. H. JACKSON

General W. H. Jackson, proprietor of the famous Belle Meade stud, is one of the most picturesque horsemen in the world. The establishment was founded by John Harding, who betrayed a remarkable talent for planning and laying out a great tract of land for such a purpose. He conveyed the farm to his son, W. G. Harding, after having managed it as sole proprietor for many years. W. G. Harding labored to increase the prestige of the place, and succeeded in producing some of the world's sensational turf-performers. Gen. W. H. Jackson, the present owner, married the daughter of W. G. Harding, and succeeded to the ownership of the estate in the closing years of the eighties. At a sale ordered by the courts a year or two later, for a partition of the estate, all the stock was sold. General Jackson bid in the pick of the animals, and there was at no time a stoppage of breeding operations.

RESIDENCE AT BELLE MEADE

A few years later General Jackson sold a half interest in Belle Meade to Richard Croker for three hundred thousand dollars, and the establishment was run as a partnership until about four years ago, when Croker sold back to General Jackson his interest for a private consideration. Since then General Jackson has been sole proprietor.

General Jackson's retirement from the thoroughbred-breeding world is one of the most important turf-events of the past decade. He has long been one of the most picturesque characters connected with the great breeding interests of this country. All his life he has stood high as a soldier and citizen. He never held public office. He could have been governor of Tennessee or represented the state in the United States Senate, but he never sought such honors. His affection for the lost cause was such that he never became a naturalized citizen of the United States, preferring to follow the example of his leader, Jefferson Davis, who died "a citizen of no country under the sun." Because of advancing years and feeble health General Jackson decided to quit the breeding of thoroughbreds, and held an auction sale.

From the standpoint of general public interest and romantic and exciting incidents resulting in the sale, it was one of the greatest ever held in America. The stock which passed under the hammer consisted of almost three hundred head of stallions, brood-mares, animals in training and weanlings, a majority of which are classed with the cream of the equine world. Some of the principal stallions are The Commoner, for which General Jackson refused an offer of thirty thousand dollars from Adolph Spreckles; Longstreet, winner of eighty thousand dollars; imported Loyalist, sire of W. C. Whitney's great stallion, Lissak; Huron, that won so many races in Ed. Corrigan's colors; Inspector B., sire of the sensational Endurace By Right, and many others. Among the noted mares are Pretense, dam of The Parader; Maud Ward, dam of Hugh Penny; Dumpling, dam of Emathion; Inspectress, dam of Approved; La Danseuse, dam of Lynch; Highland Belle, dam of Gillie; Touch Not, dam of Avoid; Guiccioli, dam of Prodigal Son, and scores of others of the richest and most refined blood.

EUCALYPTUS, TREE OF THE DESERTS

That phenomenal tree of the Australian deserts, the Eucalyptus, which has been planted for forty years in the dry soil of our own Southwest, where it is commonly known as the blue-gum, or red-gum, is the subject of a bulletin soon to be issued by the Bureau of Forestry under the title "Eucalypts Cultivated in the United States."

Although of foreign origin, the Eucalyptus seems specially fitted to the dry country of Arizona, New Mexico, southern California and western Texas, where its value would be hard to overestimate. Its drought-resisting powers enable it to flourish where no large American tree will grow. It yields oil, gum, nectar for honey-bees, furnishes shade for the ranch-house, wind-breaks for field crops, and fire-wood for localities where fuel is scarce. But its chief value lies in the possibilities it holds for the reforestation of the bare, dry mountain-sides of the desert country, and for the protection of irrigating-streams. It is specially adapted for such purposes by reason of its rapidity of growth in arid soil.

No native American species can equal the extraordinary development of this exotic from remote Australia. On the ranch of Elwood Cooper, near Santa Barbara, Cal., there are Eucalypts twenty-five years old as great in girth as oaks of three hundred years. And time and time again the species called blue-gum has, when cut to the ground, sent up sprouts from the stump which in eight years have reached a height of one hundred feet. Nor does this rapidity of growth shorten the life of the tree, for the Eucalyptus in its Australian home reaches a great age and rivals in size the giant redwoods and the big trees of California.

The author of the bulletin on "Eucalypts Cultivated in the United States," Prof. Alfred J. McClatchie, of the Arizona Experiment Station at Phoenix, has devoted ten years to the study of this genus.

The bulletin, while devoting itself especially to the Eucalyptus as it grows in this country, contains short descriptions of its habits in its native home and of its remarkable travels into all the great dry regions of the globe.

Detailed descriptions are given of the best methods of propagating and caring for the Eucalyptus, which includes directions for germinating the seed, transferring the plants to forest-soil, and setting them in the field.

Sunday Reading

Oh, heart of mine, we shouldn't
Worry so!
What we've missed of calm we couldn't
Have, you know!
What we've met of stormy pain,
And of sorrow's driving rain,
We can better meet again,
If it blow.

For we know not every morrow
Can be sad;
So, forgetting all the sorrow
We have had,
Let us fold away our fears,
And put by our foolish tears,
And through all the coming years
Just be glad.

—James Whitcomb Riley.

TRIAL TESTS CHARACTER

"TRIAL is an absolutely necessary element in all perfected character. If so much character does go to pieces at its first contact with struggle and suffering, then all the more, no matter how terrible the waste, we see the need of keeping struggle and suffering as tests of character. . . . We cannot exaggerate the importance of the change which comes to pass in a man's life when he has thoroughly learned this simple truth. Disappointments of every sort, sorrows, sufferings, trials, struggles, restlessness and dissatisfactions, false friends, poor health, low tastes and standards all about us—who shall enumerate the million forms, new to each man's new appreciation, in which life is to each man dark and not bright, bitter and not sweet?"—Phillips Brooks.

LUXURY DOES NOT BRING ACHIEVEMENT

The history of our country is a record of the successes of poor boys who seemed to be hopelessly shut off from books, culture and education, except that of the most meager kind—from almost every opportunity for mental development. The youthful Lincolns, Franklins, Hamiltons, Garfields, Grants and Clays—those who became presidents, lawyers, statesmen, soldiers, orators, merchants, educators, journalists, inventors, giants in every department of life—how they stand out from the pages of history, those poor boys, an inspiration for all time to those who are born to fight their way up to their own loaf!

The youth who is reared in a luxurious home, who from the moment of his birth is waited on by an army of servants, pampered and indulged by overfond parents, and deprived of every incentive to develop himself mentally or physically, although commonly regarded as one to be envied, is more to be pitied than the poorest, most humbly born boy or girl in the land. Unless he is gifted with an unusual mind he is in danger of becoming a degenerate, a parasite, a creature who lives on the labor of others, whose powers ultimately atrophy from disuse.—O. S. Marden, in Success.

A WELL-WISHER

I was walking along one of the main streets of Indianapolis. Suddenly a cheery "Hello!" rang out upon the air, and an old gray horse was reined up by the curbstone. A cheerful face peered out of the buggy, a few kind words were spoken, and we parted.

I had not taken a dozen steps when I heard a loud "Say!"

Upon turning around I saw that the horse was again at a standstill, and the genial face of the "Hoosier" was peering out from under the back curtain of the buggy.

"What is it?" says I.

"I wish you well!" says he.

I had met this gentleman for the first time on the previous day. He was not under the slightest obligation to me, and there was not the least prospect of our ever meeting each other again, but nevertheless he stopped his old gray horse on a cold day in winter to tell me that my destiny was a matter of personal interest to him!

"I wish you well!" says he.

Long after he had dropped the curtain and vanished from my view I stood looking after him.

Only a moment before I had been pressed down by an unusual burden, for I was passing through one of those dark spots which we all find upon the journey of life.

But somehow, after the kind old Hoosier had spoken those words, the burden rolled from my shoulders.

"He wishes me well," I kept saying to myself.

I had just been muttering over to myself all the hard things that had ever been said about the selfishness of mankind! One of those infernal distiches which stick to the memory like burrs, and poison the heart like arsenic, had been ringing through my head as monotonously as an old cow-bell:

"As I was walking by myself, myself said unto me,
'Beware of thyself, take care of thyself, for nobody cares for thee.'"

Suddenly, like the song of the first robin in spring, I heard the sweet refrain, "I wish you well, I wish you well!" and this from the lips of a stranger.

I am not ashamed to tell you that tears of gratitude filled my eyes, and that I cannot recall the words up here in my cozy study without a warm feeling around my heart.

He gave me no money, he did not offer me any substantial assistance in my pressing emergency, but he "wished me well!"

I do not know what mysterious power was in that wish, but it seemed to carry me over a rough spot. It was just at that time that the tide turned in my life.

Perhaps it is literally true, what Elizabeth Barrett Browning said, that "every wish is a prayer—with God." At any rate my experience gave the lie to that sneer of the Roman poet Plautus: "'He wishes well' is a worthless word unless a deed go with it."

What an atmosphere to fly in are good wishes! How easily the tired wings are sustained by them! How cheerily the sailor-boy puts out to sea when his sweetheart stands on the wharf to "wish him well!" How bravely the regiment goes into the fight when mothers and sisters and wives stand on the brow of the hill and "wish it well!"

Life is a hard struggle for most of us, and the least we can do is to "wish each other well." Whoever you are down there in the arena, covered with dust and half dead with the struggle, "I wish you well." Perhaps I shall never have a chance to serve you, but "I wish you well."—C. F. Goss, in the Sunday School Times.

THOUSANDS HAVE KIDNEY TROUBLE AND DON'T KNOW IT

Weak and unhealthy kidneys are responsible for more sickness and suffering than any other disease; therefore, when through neglect or other causes, kidney trouble is permitted to continue, fatal results are sure to follow.

Your other organs may need attention—but your kidneys most, because they do most and need attention first.

If you are sick or "feel badly," begin taking Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy, because as soon as your kidneys are well they will help all the other organs to health. A trial will convince any one.

Among the many famous investigated cures of Swamp-Root, the one published this month for the benefit of the FARM AND FIRESIDE readers speaks in the highest terms of the wonderful curative properties of this great kidney remedy.

DEAR SIRS:

"I feel so grateful to you and your wonderful medicine, Swamp-Root, that I cannot help writing you. I had inflammation of the bladder and other troubles. I became weak and run down, tired mornings and sleepless nights; was in poor health off and on for over five years. I had four or five different doctors to treat me. They gave me some relief for a while, but I never felt that I was cured. The doctors did not seem to think that I had any kidney trouble, but somehow I felt differently about it, and having heard so much about your Swamp-Root I concluded to send to you for a sample bottle, and the effect was so pleasing that I sent and got a large dollar bottle. I began taking it, and have only had two light spells since. Then I got the second bottle, and took that, and have not been so well in five years. I cannot say enough in praise of your Swamp-Root, and what it has done for me, and how much better in every way I feel."

MRS. M. L. COE,
101 S. SANTA FE ST., ELPASO, TEXAS.
To DR. KILMER & CO., Binghamton, N. Y.

MRS. M. L. COE

Women suffer untold misery because the nature of their disease is not always correctly understood; in most cases when doctoring they are led to believe that womb trouble or female weakness of some sort is responsible for their many ills, when in fact disordered kidneys are the chief cause of their distressing troubles.

Nervousness, headache, puffy or dark circles under the eyes, a dragging pain or dull ache in the back, weakness or bearing-down sensation, profuse or scanty supply of urine, frequent desire to pass it night or day, with scalding or burning sensation—these are all unmistakable signs of kidney or bladder trouble.

If there is any doubt in your mind as to your condition, take from your urine on rising about four ounces, place it in a glass or bottle and let it stand twenty-four hours. If on examination it is milky or cloudy, if there is a brick-dust settling, or if small particles float about in it, your kidneys are in need of immediate attention.

When the heart is acting badly, have you ever thought that it may be due to kidney trouble, as is often the case? Other symptoms showing that you need Swamp-Root are sleeplessness, dizziness, sallow, unhealthy complexion, plenty of ambition, but no strength. Swamp-Root is pleasant to take, and is used in the leading hospitals, recommended by physicians in their private practice, and is taken by doctors themselves, because they recognize in Swamp-Root the greatest and most successful remedy that science has ever been able to compound,

No matter how many doctors you may have tried—no matter how much money you may have spent on other medicines, you really owe it to yourself to at least give Swamp-Root a trial. Its stanchest friends to-day are those who had almost given up hope of ever becoming well again.

If you are already convinced that Swamp-Root is what you need, you can purchase the regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles at the drug stores everywhere. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root—Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

Sample Bottle Sent Absolutely Free by Mail

SPECIAL NOTICE.—If you have the slightest symptoms of kidney or bladder trouble, or if there is a trace of it in your family history, send at once to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., who will gladly send you by mail, immediately, without cost to you, a sample bottle of Swamp-Root, and a book containing many of the thousands upon thousands of testimonial letters received from men and women cured. In writing, be sure to say that you read this generous offer in the FARM AND FIRESIDE.

GIVEN AWAY

A HANDSOME WATCH GIVEN AWAY. You can obtain one of our handsome Watches without cost, if you sell 20 cases of our Perfume at 5c. each among your friends, and send us the One Dollar thus received. We are distributing these Watches simply to advertise our business. There is no misrepresentation or humbug about this—so if you wish to secure one of our Watches, all we ask is that when you receive it you will show it to your friends. Thousands are receiving watches from us and are delighted with them. This is a grand opportunity to get a handsome Watch, without paying a cent. **We give a beautiful Watch** as a present to anyone who sells 20 cases of our Perfume at 5c. each and remits us $1.00 for same. Send your name and address and we will mail you the Perfume postpaid. When sold, send us the $1.00, and we will forward you the handsome **Gold** laid Watch. We trust you and take back all you cannot sell. No catch-words in this advertisement. We mean just what we say. You require no capital while working for us. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Address, **PERSIAN CO., Box 180, New York City.**

Two Rings Free! We will give these **Two SOLID GOLD** laid Rings, one set with large Garnet and three Pearls, one with Ruby and two Brilliants, *FREE* to any one that will sell **12** of our **Gold Plate Enameled Brooches**, set with different colored stones at **10** cents each, and sends us the **$1.20.** No money required until brooches are sold. We take back all not sold. Address HOWARD MFG. CO., PROVIDENCE, R.I.

$3 a Day Sure Send us your address and we will show you how to make $3 a day absolutely sure; we furnish the work and teach you free, you work in the locality where you live. Send us your address and we will explain the business fully, remember we guarantee a clear profit of $3 for every day's work, absolutely sure. Write at once. ROYAL MANUFACTURING CO., Box 810, Detroit, Mich.

1427 Silk Fringe Cards, Love, Transparent, Escort & Acquaintance Cards, New Puzzles, New Games, Premium Articles, &c. Finest Sample Book of Visiting & Hidden Name Cards, Biggest Catalogue. Send 2c stamp for all. OHIO CARD CO., CADIZ, OHIO. **CARDS**

CARDS Send 2c. stamp for New SAMPLE BOOK of all the FINEST Styles in Gold Beveled Edge, Hidden Name, Silk Fringe, Envelope and Calling Cards for 1903. We sell GENUINE CARDS, Not Trash. UNION CARD CO., 836 Columbus, Ohio.

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WANTED, AGENTS in each county to sell "Family Memorials." Good profit, steady work. Address CAMPBELL & CO., 216 A Street, Elgin, Illinois

A Fair Wood-chopper

By MILFORD W. FOSHAY

PART III.

SWIFTLY the years flew by. Myrtle Knapp left childhood and school behind to make acquaintance with events which stir the deep emotions of the soul. There was now to come into her life that which mingles pain and peace, fear and hope—love; but out of this there may come chastened character with preparation for life as it is, because life as it ought to be should constitute the ideal. Barton Fernald, a prosperous young business man, had been drawn to her by that grace of disposition which was voiced by others years before in the pet name of her babyhood, "Sweetie." Time served but to develop with him the deeper sentiment of love, which yielded a fruition of joy by its return.

Six months after their engagement, and when thoughts of marriage were beginning to take form in plans, a cloud arose on his business horizon. It gathered density, and finally burst in a deluge that swept away all but a remnant of his means. His partner had brought on the destruction, and ruined the good name of the firm.

Barton's thoughts immediately turned to her whom he loved, and on the best way to retrieve his fortune, that he might take her to himself. His father was a country gentleman, and he had thus seen the theories of agriculture worked out before his eyes; hence, the idea of becoming a Western ranchman occurred to him at once as the surest method for using to advantage his small capital. He would seek the West, and in a very few years could either have a suitable home to which he might take a bride, or sufficient means to invest in business again.

The thought of separation was trying to the verge of distraction, but he saw no other way. When the future was talked over between them, however, she put a different light on it. That strength and mildness are often combined in the same character was clearly shown. Her decision was that they should go together, the better to enjoy the victory over adversity. She won the day.

"Do you know," she said, quietly, and looking as if to a great distance, "do you know that I often seem to see our old home in Nebraska? I was too young to remember in what part of the state we lived, but when I hear of the West a vision frequently comes to me—so indistinct that I cannot explain clearly what I see. It seems as if I were in the open air, with the blue sky a long way off in one direction, while in the other trees are near by. I can just remember mama telling me how delightful our home would have been if papa had not been killed, and maybe that home is what comes before me. You know I have told you the story as I heard it from her, and how the money which was to have been used in beautifying the place was never found. Let us leave the East, which now has bitter memories, together, and make a home of peace for ourselves."

So it was decided. A quiet marriage, a few days at Barton's home, and then off for the West. From what information they could obtain, it was deemed best to go directly to a town named Compton, in Nebraska. They arrived in the early spring, and several days were spent in driving with a real-estate agent, viewing the places he had for sale.

The weather-beaten houses and little sod barns set on the monotonous stretch of prairie did not appeal very strongly to them, and they began to fear lest they had made a mistake in coming. The agent finally gathered from their conversation that they were in search of beauty as well as of utility, and he decided to take them ten miles northeast, near the Platte River. Here he had a place whose location was as picturesque as could be desired. But the few buildings were much run down, and everything was in a state of general neglect. When it was reached, however, in spite of the dilapidated wood-colored house, sod barn and tumble-down log storehouse, the situation certainly appeared desirable, with the rolling prairie in front, and at the back the creek leading to the river and bordered with cottonwoods and wild-plum trees.

Myrtle acted as if in a maze. It was very much like the vision which had so often appeared to her. Surely her early home must have been some such place as this! At any rate it pleased her fancy more than any other she had seen, and as the buildings could be made habitable until improvements were completed, they purchased the place.

When the price had been paid, the necessary repairs attended to, and implements and stock bought, their small capital was very much smaller. Then the novelty wore off as spring merged into summer, changing the green grass to brown, and bringing dust and other discomforts, so that it was a rather sober young couple who often talked over the outlook.

What was the result to be? Could they continue to meet expenses until returns from the land came in? There was a hired man to be paid all the year, and additional ones at harvest. Altogether it was a problem. That hundreds were having a similar experience did not make it lighter.

Somehow it took a great deal of money to do the absolutely necessary things. Among these had been the tearing down of the old log storehouse and getting material for a new one. The logs had been sawed up into stove-lengths by the hired man, who each morning split enough for the day's consumption. One forenoon Myrtle needed some extra fuel. She stepped to the pile of blocks to get a few sticks, but found none split. She had never lifted an ax in her life, but now took one up, and laughed as she said, "I wonder what kind of a wood-chopper I shall make."

She stood a block on end, and swung her ax. It opened with unexpected ease, and the sight which met her eyes caused her to gaze at the wood in astonishment. And no wonder! A scene like enchantment was being enacted, as a large roll of bank-notes slowly unfolded before her eyes. Could she be mistaken? No, it was certainly money. Some one had long ago bored a hole in the end of the log from which this block was cut, stuffed the money in, then stopped up the opening, for there lay the plug.

After a time she gathered up the money, and went

"A large roll of bank-notes slowly unfolded before her eyes"

into the house to sit for half an hour, lost in thought. Was a certain supposition possible? Then she counted the money. Three thousand nine hundred and ninety-five dollars! Her head swam. She put the money carefully away to await her husband's coming. At noon he noticed that something unusual was the matter, and was about to speak, but she stopped him, saying, "Wait!"

When the hired man went to his work, and they were alone in the house, she showed him the money and told of its discovery.

"Barton," she said, at the close of her story, "this may belong to some one else, but—won't you go to Compton and trace back the ownership of this farm?"

He regarded her curiously for a moment, then it came to him. "Oh, you think—"

"Yes, as nearly as I dare. Let us not talk of it until you return."

He had never before seen her so excited, and hurried away. She was awaiting his return, and met him at the door. He was now excited.

"This was certainly your father's home," he answered to her look.

"Then this is the money which the tramp stole and hid when he killed poor papa, and it rightly belongs to us. As my wood-chopping abilities discovered it, our coat of arms shall be an ax and a block of wood," she declared, with an attempt to be gay; but the smiles and tears, flushed cheeks and quivering voice attested her relief from the strain of pinched circumstances, and her satisfaction at the prospect of an ideal home.

THE END

THE HAUNTED HOUSEWIFE

He told the story himself, and it certainly has a truthful ring to it. In fact, it is difficult to believe that one could imagine so harrowing an experience.

His wife, he said, had a woman who came occasionally (when sent for) to do certain stunts of cleaning and washing, and this woman had an appetite. In that lay the origin of the trouble. On days when she was due she came early—not to work, but to eat; and she stayed late—also not to work, but to eat. It took her an hour or more to begin to get ready to go to work, and another hour or more to begin to get ready to quit. She was there for breakfast, luncheon and dinner. If there was only a half-day's work to be done, it made no difference. In one way or another she would make it last over the three meals, and at each she would dispose of more than all the rest of the family put together, after which she would ask if she could not take the rest of the roast home. Now, in the course of time this system of collecting a full-day's pay for a half-day's work, in order to acquire three meals, grew wearisome, and it naturally followed that there was trouble the night that the woman made and drank seven large cups of coffee. In the interest of economy the members of the family had cut themselves down to coffee once a day—in the morning—and it certainly did seem as if the woman was overdoing the thing a little in disposing of seven at night.

"Never again," is what the housewife said in substance, although not in those words. Having paid the woman not only for her work, but also to wait for meals; having given from her own and her children's wardrobes at various times, and having in other ways endeavored to be charitable and considerate, she held that seven cups were something like six too many. So she said to the woman, "Nay, nay; here we part," and when next she wanted cleaning and washing done she advertised.

Here the plot thickens—oh, very much.

The woman appeared at the door with the advertisement in her hand, and she was the only one who did come.

"I thought you must have lost my address," she said, simply.

"Well, I hadn't," replied the housewife, pointedly.

"Oh!" said the woman; and she took off her bonnet and shawl, and prepared to go to work.

Well, the work had to be done, and she was there, so the grocery and meat bills were allowed to make their customary jump. But a stop-order was put on the coffee. One cup was the limit for dinner. In other ways things went very much as before.

"Well," said the housewife to her husband that night, "I've learned one thing. I'll not advertise again. But I do want to get hold of a good woman to come here occasionally."

So the next time she left word at a neighboring intelligence-office, where they made a specialty of furnishing women for that kind of work, and they promised to send her one.

They did. The woman of the seven cups appeared promptly.

"I think you might have sent to my house," she said, reproachfully, "but it's all right, anyway."

"But I didn't want you," protested the housewife.

"Oh!" said the woman, as she removed her bonnet and shawl.

"It seems so petty to limit her," said the housewife, "and I wouldn't mind so much if she only did her work quickly and well; but it's a nuisance to have things dragged out so. Apparently the only way to hurry her is to change the dinner-hour."

"Why, then," interrupted her husband, "we would have to have a late supper, and she'd hang on for that."

"True," admitted the housewife, thoughtfully. "She simply will not do."

Here the plot gets very, very thick.

The housewife inquired among the neighbors, and got a list of three women who "went out by the day." This she gave to her husband one evening.

"Get one of them," she said. "I meant to see about it this afternoon, but I was too tired. If none of them can come, they'll surely be able to tell you of some one who can. But I don't want the seven-cup woman. Remember that!"

"You bet I will," he answered, earnestly.

As he was paying the bills he had reason to be earnest.

"I've got one," he announced, "and it isn't the seven-cup woman."

"Are you sure?" asked the wife.

"Positive. I saw her myself, and it's not the same."

Well, the next morning the seven-cup woman appeared for breakfast. The woman who had been engaged had a child who was taken sick during the night.

"So she asked me to come in her place," said the seven-cup woman.

"But I wanted some one else," protested the housewife.

"Oh!" said the seven-cup woman, as she removed her bonnet and shawl, and prepared to go to work—at the breakfast.

"What shall we do?" asked the housewife, in despair, of her husband.

"Move," he replied, promptly. "Perhaps then we can lose her."

"Was ever any one so haunted?" wailed the housewife, wearily.

This is not necessarily the end of the story, but it brings it up to the present time. The future alone can tell what the finish will be.—Elliott Flower, in Leslie's Weekly.

CONSTANCY

Faithful? Yes, faithful always, that is why
I love no longer you, who once I loved;
Whose faintest whisper more my soul had moved
Than symphonies by seraphs harped on high.

You are a changeling. Where the tender grace,
The woman's dignity—the girl's sweet truth?
She whom I loved is dead; my dream of youth
Is to me but a memory and a face.

I were unfaithful, dear, to love you now;
False to my sentience of what you were.
On the gray shore, where endless waters stir,
I watch a far horizon for the prow

That soon shall come and bear me to a land
Where all the good we dream in life is true;
Where she walks, waiting, who of old was you,
And faithful ever, I shall hold her hand.

—Duffield Osborne, in Ainslee's.

THE STUB-BOOK OF UNCLE BUSCOBEATAS

FROM THE SPANISH OF PEDRO ANTONIO DE ALARCON. TRANSLATED BY EDGAR ALLEN FORBES.

THE scene is laid in Rota, the least of these beautiful villages which form a wide semicircle about the Bay of Cadiz; but, although it is the least, it is by no means insignificant. The Duke of Osuna, bearing the title of Duke of Arcos, wore it among the pearls of his crown in the long ago, and had there his ducal castle, which I could describe stone by stone.

But we are not speaking now of castles nor of dukes, but of the celebrated fields which radiate from Rota; and particularly of a very humble gardener, whom we will call Uncle Buscobeatas, although that was not his real name.

The fields of Rota are so productive that, aside from contributing to the Duke of Osuna many thousands of bushels of grain and furnishing wine for the entire population, they supply fruit and vegetables to Cadiz, often to Huelva, and occasionally even to Seville. This is especially true of pumpkins and cabbage, whose excellent quality, surprising abundance and consequent cheapness evoke the highest praise—insomuch that in lower Andalusia they dub the inhabitants of Rota "pumpkin-raisers" and "cabbage-raisers," which they accept with noble pride.

And in truth they have reason to be proud of such encomiums, for those gardens of Rota which are so productive, that land which produces both for consumption and exportation, that land which yields three or four harvests a year, is not earth at all, but pure, clean sand. It is ceaselessly expelled by the turbulent ocean, is whirled away by the furious western winds, and scattered all over the district of Rota, like the ashes in the vicinity of Vesuvius.

But the incessant toil of man more than compensates for the ingratitude of Nature. I do not believe that in all the world there is a laboring man who toils so much as the Rotanese. Not even a tiny stream of sweet water flows through those melancholy fields. What does it matter? The pumpkin-raiser perforates his fields with wells, from which he draws out—here by hand, there by buckets—the precious fluid which serves as blood to the vegetables. The principles of fertilization are also wanting in sand. What does it matter? The tomato-raiser passes half his life seeking and removing substances which will serve as guano, converting even the sea-weeds into manure! Once possessed of these two precious elements the son of Rota proceeds patiently to fertilize not his entire estate, but little circles of ground as large as a small plate; in each of these fertilized circles he sows a grain of tomato or pumpkin seed, which he then waters from a small jar, just as one would give drink to a little child.

From the time of planting until the harvest he tends the plants daily, one by one, treating them with the fondness and pains comparable only to the solicitude of a spinster for her flower-pots. Now he adds a little handful of manure; now he pours on a little stream of water; now he clears them of caterpillars and other insects; now he cares for the infirm, splinting the fractures and placing bulwarks of cane and straw beside those which cannot resist the rays of the sun or the blasts of wind. He counts the stems, the leaves, the flowers and the fruit of the most precocious, and talks to them, kisses them, blesses them, and even gives them expressive names to distinguish them in his mind.

This is no exaggeration. It is already a saying (and I have heard it many times in Rota) that the gardener of that country touches no less than forty times with his own hand every single plant which he raises in his garden. And this explains why the old gardeners of that locality go about bent double, until their beards touch their knees. It is the posture in which they have spent their noble, meritorious lives.

Well, then, Uncle Buscobeatas belonged to the class of gardeners I have just described. He was already bent double, having reached the age of sixty years. For forty years he had tilled a garden bordering on the port of Costilla.

That year he had raised some immense pumpkins, as large as the decorative globes on the monumental bridge. It was about the middle of the month of June, and they were already taking on the color of the orange within and without. Uncle Buscobeatas knew them perfectly—by their form, by their degree of maturity and by name—especially the forty largest and most conspicuous. They were already saying "Cook me!" and the old man passed his days admiring them with tenderness, and exclaiming, sadly, "Alas! soon we must part!"

Finally he resolved upon the sacrifice. Marking the choicest of the fruit of those precious vines, he pronounced the terrible sentence, "To-morrow I shall cut these forty, and take them to the market at Cadiz. Happy shall he be who eats them!" He walked homeward with a slow pace, and passed the night with the anxious feelings of a father who is to give his daughter in marriage on the following day. "My poor pumpkins!" he sighed many times, without being able to compose himself to sleep. Then he reflected, "But what else is to be done? For this purpose I have raised them. They will yield me at least fifteen dollars."

Imagine, then, his astonishment and his fury the following morning, on going to his garden, when he found that during the night he had been robbed of his forty pumpkins! Like Shakespeare's Jew, he reached the loftiest paroxysm of tragedy, repeating frantically those terrible words of Shylock, "Oh, if I find him! If I find him!"

When he began to reflect more deliberately he reasoned that his beloved jewels could not be in Rota, where it would be impossible to sell them without risk of recognition, and where, also, the price of pumpkins was very low.

"I see it clearly; they are in Cadiz!" he concluded. "The rascally scoundrel must have stolen them last night about nine or ten o'clock, and escaped with them at twelve on the freight-boat. I shall leave for Cadiz this morning on the hour-boat, and it will be a wonder if I do not trap the sneak-thief and recover the children of my toil!"

Having said this he remained for about twenty minutes in the place of the catastrophe, as though he were caressing the mutilated pumpkin-vines, or counting the pumpkins that remained, or holding a sort of inquest for some trial which was about to begin. At about eight he left for the wharf.

He had determined to leave for the market of Cadiz in the hour-boat, the humble sail-boat which starts every morning at nine carrying passengers, just as the freight-boat sails every night at twelve carrying fruit and vegetables. The first is called the hour-boat, because in that space of time, and even in forty minutes when the wind is favorable, it crosses the three leagues of water which stretch between the ancient village of the Duke of Arcos and the ancient city of Hercules.

It was half-past ten of that day when Uncle Buscobeatas stopped in front of a vegetable-stand in the Cadiz market, and exclaimed to the weary policeman who was accompanying him, "There are my pumpkins! Arrest that man!" pointing out the retailer.

"Arrest me!" exclaimed the accused, full of surprise and anger. "These are my pumpkins; I bought them."

"You can tell that to the Mayor!" replied Uncle Buscobeatas.

"I say no!"

"I say yes!"

"You vagabond!"

"You thief!"

"You must speak to each other with more decency. Men should not be lacking in this respect," said the policeman, with much calmness, giving each a punch in the ribs.

Meanwhile a large crowd had assembled, and among them came the Magistrate in charge of the market-police—the Market-inspector, as he is officially called. The policeman resigned the jurisdiction to his superior, and informed that distinguished authority of all that had taken place.

"From whom did you buy these pumpkins?" His Majesty asked, in an august manner.

"From Uncle Fulano, resident of Rota," he replied.

"Very likely!" ironically growled Uncle Buscobeatas. "He is quite equal to such things. When his own garden, which is wretchedly poor, produces little, he goes out to rob his neighbor."

"But," continued the Magistrate, turning to the old gardener, "admitting the hypothesis that you were robbed last night of forty pumpkins, what assurance have you that these are yours?"

"Indeed," replied Uncle Buscobeatas, "because I know them like you know your daughters, if you have any. Don't you see I raised them? Look here! This one is named Roundy; this one is Plumpy; this is Paunchy; that one is Mulatto; this one is Manuela, because it so much resembles my younger daughter." And the poor old man began to weep bitterly.

"All that sounds very well," replied the Inspector, "but the law is not satisfied with the mere recognition of your pumpkins. It is necessary that you should prove your claim by credible evidences. Gentlemen, there is nothing to smile at. I am a lawyer."

"Then you shall see that I shall quickly prove to all the world, without moving from this place, that these pumpkins were raised in my garden," said Uncle Buscobeatas, to the astonishment of the bystanders.

Letting fall to the ground a bundle which he carried in his hand, he stooped down, kneeling until he sat upon his feet, and began to tranquilly untie the knotted ends of a handkerchief.

The curiosity of the Councilor, of the retailer and of the crowd rose to the highest pitch. "What is he going to get out of there?" they all asked.

At the same moment there arrived a new curiosity-seeker, attracted by the crowd. The retailer caught sight of him, and exclaimed, "I am so glad that you have come, Uncle Fulano! This man says that the pumpkins which you sold me last night are stolen. Answer him!"

The new-comer turned as yellow as wax, and started to withdraw; but the bystanders interfered, and the Inspector himself commanded him to remain.

"Now you shall see about it!" exclaimed Uncle Buscobeatas, face to face with the supposed thief.

"You are the one to look out for what you say," replied Uncle Fulano, having recovered his composure. "If you do not prove your denunciation, and you can't prove it, I shall send you to jail as a slanderer! These pumpkins were mine, for I raised them in my garden of Egiddo, and no one can prove otherwise!"

"Now you shall see!" said Uncle Buscobeatas, untying the handkerchief and tossing its contents to the ground.

Scattered about on the ground they beheld a multitude of fragments of pumpkin-vines, still green and dripping with sap; the old gardener, seated upon his heels and shaking with laughter, addressed the Councilor and the crowd as follows:

"Gentlemen, have you ever paid taxes? And have you ever seen that big green book which the tax-collector carries, from which he cuts off receipts, leaving there a stub by means of which he can tell whether such and such a receipt is false?"

"You are speaking about what is called a stub-book," gravely observed the Councilor.

"That is precisely what I have here—the stub-book of my garden; that is, the ends to which these pumpkins were joined before I was robbed of them. Now, if you don't believe it, look! This stub belongs to that pumpkin yonder; no one can deny it. This one belongs to that pumpkin; this to that one. Exactly! Now, this one belongs over here."

While speaking he had been fitting a peduncle, or stub, into the excavation in each pumpkin, and the spectators saw with astonishment that the irregular bases of the stubs fitted exactly into the whitish cavities of the pumpkins.

The bystanders all squatted down, including the policeman and the Councilor himself, and assisted Uncle Buscobeatas in his singular verification, calling out to each other in boyish joy, "There's no doubt about it! See? This one goes here! No, that belongs to this one!"

Their bursts of laughter and the shouts of the grandees mingled with the whistling of the small boys and the imprecations of the women and the tears of the old gardener. The policemen were already impatient to take the convicted thief to jail.

It is unnecessary to state that they had this pleasure; that Uncle Fulano saw himself obliged then and there to return to the retailer the fifteen dollars he had collected from him; that the retailer delivered the sum over to Uncle Buscobeatas, and that the latter returned to Rota supremely happy, saying to himself on the way, "How beautiful they were in the market! I ought to have brought Manuela home with me to eat to-night, and to save the seed!"

WILLIAMS OF RHODE ISLAND

BY FRANK H. SWEET

Williams of Rhode Island was down on his luck. He had been five years in the mines, and had confidently looked forward to each succeeding year enabling him to go back home and make things easier for the woman and little ones. But each succeeding year had found him almost precisely where the previous one had left him—a sanguine prospector, with a wealth of hope and a pitifully small outfit.

He had frequently struck promising veins, and had hurried to his tent to write glowing, exultant letters to the woman who was waiting for him; but somehow the claims he had worked had all petered out prematurely.

But this last find had been different. He had taken out sixty dollars a day for a week, and with this substantial evidence of coming prosperity had written a letter which filled the far-away home with sudden joy. Then the vein had disappeared, and he had picked and shoveled and hauled away dirt until his money was exhausted. The gold was there, though; he was sure of it, and his confidence induced the trader at Three Forks to advance him funds. However, there had been a shaft to sink, and solid rock to cut through, and it had all been expensive. When it was accomplished the money was all gone, and still there was no vein.

He was just as confident, but the trader was angry, and accused him of false pretenses. Only this morning he had received intimation that the sheriff was about to levy on his mine—on his Molly, named after the dear one for whom it was to do so much.

He was a strong man, hardened to ordinary weaknesses; but as he sat there on the boulder, tears began to drop from his eyes, and to roll unconsciously down his bronzed, bearded face. Never had his home seemed so far away and the future so utterly hopeless and dreary.

He was aroused by approaching footsteps. When he looked up, two men stood before him. One of them was the owner of the adjoining claim; the other was the sheriff.

"I have come to—" began the officer.

"Yes, yes, I know." Williams of Rhode Island rose heavily to his feet. "Jest go ahead; I can do nothing."

The sheriff looked at him curiously.

"Oh, 'tain't quite so bad as that," he laughed. "I did 'low on makin' a levy, but Kansas here has been tellin' me something that has changed my plans. You needn't bother 'bout the bill right now."

"I s'pose ye heered 'bout my luck?" Kansas asked, blandly.

"Yes." Williams of Rhode Island looked at him stolidly. Kansas was a person of established shiftlessness, and yet only a few days before he had struck it rich, and was now a man of wealth and some consequence.

"I've got a pretty vein," Kansas went on, frankly, "but hit dips to'ards you-un's land. If thar's a pocket, I 'low hit's acrost the line. I don't s'pose ye'd be willin' to sell out clean; but if ye'll go pards I'll give ye ten thousand fer a half share." He waited a moment, but as there was no answer, added, "I'll make it twenty thousand fer a clean job; but o' course ye won't quit."

Williams of Rhode Island looked down into the valley and up the mountain, and then across to the east, where the sun was just rising above the pines.

"Yes, I'll quit," he said, huskily; "you can buy me out clean. I'm goin' home."

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How to Dress

HOME GOWN

ATTRACTIVE and becoming morning-gowns are always in vogue, and make essential features of every wardrobe. The very stylish design illustrated includes the fashionable stole effect with a round yoke, but can be made plain when preferred. It is of reseda challis, dotted with silk in the same color, and is trimmed with lace in Arab color, but the stoles can be made of brocade or of flowered silk on a plain material with equally satisfactory results.

LONG COAT WITH CAPES

Long coats are much in vogue for traveling, general utility and evening wear. The stylish model illustrated includes the fashionable triple capes, and is adapted to all uses, as its material can be varied to meet the varied demands. It is made of Oxford-gray cloth, and is closed by means of handsome smoked-pearl buttons, but lighter-colored cloths in various tints and all the cravenette materials are appropriate.

HOME GOWN

WALKING-SUIT

Walking-suits made in shirt-waist style are exceedingly fashionable, and are seen in all suiting materials. The smart model illustrated is in russet-brown panne zibeline, and is simply trimmed with straps of the material piped with brown velvet. Both the waist and the skirt show the slot-seams, that are such pronounced favorites of the season. The waist includes also the princesse closing, formed by the meeting of inch tucks at the edges of the fronts.

HATS

The most fashionable hats are all shaggy of texture, except velvet, which leads in elegant hats. Felt will be worn and will look well, but it will not come up to the hats of nap and beaver which will adorn the heads of women and children during the months to come.

A good nap hat is not particularly cheap, but the fact that it may be trimmed at home really diminishes the apparent extravagance of getting a really good hat. These hats are made in folds, with bent and tilted brims, so that very little trimming is necessary upon them, and that should be of a good quality, since filmy stuffs do not look well upon a nap hat. One handsome one was of white beaver, trimmed around the flat crown with velvet in nasturtium and burnt-orange shades of yellow. The outside brim was covered with a heavy quality of ivory lace of the point de Venise variety, and the edge of the brim was wreathed in yellow roses in different shades, mingled with some cream-white.

Some of the nap hats may be simply trimmed with a long plume at one side and a streak of yellow velvet under the brim.—New Orleans Picayune.

LONG COAT WITH CAPES

WALKING-SUIT

Any of these patterns furnished from this office for ten cents. Waist and skirt can be purchased as separate patterns.

LONG COAT WITH CAPES.—Pattern No. 4283. Bust measures, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches.

HOME GOWN.—Pattern No. 4287. Bust measures, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches.

WALKING-SUIT.—Shirt-waist, No. 4281. Bust measures, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches. Nine-gored skirt, No. 4257. Waist measures, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches.

The Young People

A SHORN LAMB

BY ELLIOT WALKER

THE brown crop which ornamented Johnny's pate was extraordinarily thick, and the weather being still cool, was rather longer than usual.

He stood in the yard, glancing cautiously at the house, with his hand in his blouse-pocket. Presently something was surreptitiously conveyed to his small mouth, and the delightful, forbidden operation began. John was five.

His elder brother glared at him enviously. "Where'd yer get it?"

"Um-um-um—bought it!"

"Don't let mother catch yer."

"No, sir!"

"Say!" coaxingly, "when yer get through, let me?"

"It's spruce—um—real spruce."

"Aw! come now, Johnny."

When the jaws of the little brother arrived at the point of intolerable aching he reluctantly handed it over. By the time of its return the gum was reduced to a fine state of plasticity. It was now in capital condition for quick future use.

The two small white beds in the room still known as "the nursery" stood side by side. That period of wakeful activity which follows the removal of the harness of the day was upon both children.

The gas was still lighted. Their mother called unexpectedly from below, "Get right into bed, dears. I'll be back directly."

"Yes, mother."

The temptation was too much, however. Johnny clawed under the slats, the refreshing lump was produced, and he chewed vigorously with a careful ear.

"She's comin'."

"No, she ain't," with a finger at his lips.

"I can beat yer turnin' somersets."

"No, sir!"

Two rapid revolutions. Open-mouthed disagreement. Two more.

"Where's my gum?" whispered Johnny, in alarm, looking around on the bed. "It dropped out."

Then ensued a wild and hasty hunt.

"Here she comes!" and they scrambled under the sheets.

The mother bent fondly over the innocent faces. "Good-night, my lambs." Her hand was pressed lovingly on the head of the youngest lamb. He smiled up at her. "Johnny Goddard, what have you got in your hair? Dear me! It won't come off! It's stuck down! Have you been playing with tar?"

"N-no!" The thought of the guilty is rapid. A little hand went up, and pickcd. A long, tenacious filament came down to the unformed but acute nose. It was. All hope fled. "I was turnin'—a somerset, an' it felled out—an' I run my head in it—I s'pose," blubbered Johnny.

"What, for goodness' sake?"

"My—my gum."

There came a snicker from the adjacent bed.

Their horrified parent flew to the hall. "Henry," she called, "do come up!"

When her husband grasped the situation he held his sides. "Get the scissors."

Yes, the scissors did what they could that night, but early the next morning at the barber-shop Johnny became a shorn lamb.

Wit and Humor

NOT AFFLICTED

"DON'T you think that young man is afflicted with a swelled head?"

"No," answered Miss Cayenne; "he's not afflicted with it, he enjoys it."—Washington Star.

THAT ACCOUNTS FOR IT

Gerald—"I wonder how Ananias got such a reputation as a liar."

Geraldine—"I suppose he told Sapphira she was the only girl he had ever loved."—Harper's Bazar.

A SINECURE

Mrs. Flynn—"An' phwat's yer son Moike doin' now, Mrs. Casey?"

Mrs. Casey—"Shure, Moike ain't doin' nothin', Mrs. Flynn. He's got a gooverninmint job."—Leslie's Weekly.

STARTLING INCOMPETENCE

First burglar—"Here's a bank cashier bin stealin' fer twenty years an' only taken ten t'ousand dollars."

Second burglar—"Hully gee! Such a incompetent mug ez dat must er got his job t'roo 'inflooence.'"—Judge.

PROGRESSIVE

Tourist—"Do the inhabitants of these islands show any signs of progressiveness?"

Explorer—"Oh, yes. They are holding the last missionary for a ransom instead of eating him."—Judge.

HUMOROUS

Once a citizen took his children to a dark, moldy old school-house with a view to entering them there.

"But your children have not been vaccinated," objected the authorities.

"No," replied the citizen; "I think it better to fight smallpox with Nature's own weapons—plenty of pure air and sunshine."

The authorities regarded the citizen narrowly at this, and observing that he was sane, conceived that he was doubtless joking, and laughed heartily.—Life.

DECIDED BY LOT

A Quaker-city gossip tells this story on a young man who apologized for being late at a dinner-party:

"Awfully glad to see you, Mr. Blank," said the hostess. "So good of you to come. And all the way from New York, too! But where is your brother?"

"I am commissioned to tender his regrets. You see, we are so busy just now that it was impossible for both of us to get away, and so we tossed up to see which of us should come," said the young man.

"How nice! Such an original idea! And you won."

"No," said the young man, absently; "I lost."—Pittsburg Bulletin.

The Family Physician

By ROBERT B. HOUSE, M.D.

THERE are twenty-five hundred hospitals and asylums in the United States, giving employment to sixty-five thousand people, and paying in salaries the enormous sum of above twenty-three million dollars. The hospitals of the United States have an aggregate of above six hundred thousand beds, in which are cared for annually above one million patients. Thirty-seven thousand physicians are engaged in caring for the sick in these institutions.

MALARIA

Last summer we met an old "regular" on his vacation, and had many interesting talks with him. "I've been out of practice for several years," he said, "and am 'out of date,' I suppose. They say that the cause of malaria is the mosquito, and I am not denying that the mosquito may transmit the disease, but I hold that there are other causes. I remember when they were putting in certain works in ———— they had occasion to make some wide and deep excavations in front of our leading hotel, and the result was that the hotel had to be closed on account of so many guests contracting malaria. It was winter, and there were no mosquitoes about. The whole neighborhood was similarly affected."

FRUIT-SEEDS AND APPENDICITIS

Many very intelligent people are deterred from swallowing the seeds of berries, grapes and other fruits, lest the lodgment of these small bits of indigestibleness may induce that dreaded accident, appendicitis. This fear is utterly baseless, since the healthy appendix is protected by a valvular arrangement which prevents even the smallest seeds from entering it. It is only after inflammation has already destroyed its normal protection that any foreign substance can gain access to it. To feel compelled to eschew all seedy berries and fruits is to seriously curtail one's dietary, and it is entirely unnecessary. In fact, the free and constant use of ripe berries and fruits of all kinds is one of the best preventives of this dangerous disease. Fruit-eating prevents or helps to overcome constipation, and constipation is the most prolific cause of appendicitis. The physician should thoroughly disabuse his patients of this mistaken notion. All the smooth seeds are harmless.—The Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette.

THE NEED OF SYMPATHY

Child-life has many needs, but there is none stronger than that of outspoken sympathy. Some children are well fed, well dressed and well taught, while yet they go hungry for demonstrations of love. They may be adored, admired and trusted, while yet they feel themselves watched, criticized and distrusted. Let the home training be ever so severe, if sympathy keeps pace with it the burden will seldom be greater than the child can bear. Parents feel that speaking their compassion will counteract the discipline or lessen their authority. If it be necessary to preserve sternness during the time of discipline in order to gain the end in view, let sympathy follow close upon submission. Introduce a remark like "It's pretty hard work to remember everything, isn't it, dear?" or, "Baby feels like crying this morning, but he's going to be a brave boy, and will not cry." Can any experience be more dreary than that of a child when it feels its mother's heart turned away from it? The world looks like a great, barren expanse with no place to rest.—K. Z., in Babyhood.

The Family Lawyer

By JUDGE WM. M. ROCKEL

Legal inquiries of general interest from our regular subscribers will be answered in this department free of charge. Querists desiring an immediate answer by mail should remit one dollar, addressed "Law Department," this office.

INHERITANCE.—C. B. M., Kansas, asks: "If a man who is married, but childless, dies intestate, will his widow inherit all of his property, both real and personal, or could his parents and brothers and sisters claim it, although they had never helped to accumulate any of it?" The widow would receive all.

CHANGING A CORNER-STONE.—B. W., Nebraska, asks: "Under what conditions can a county surveyor move a government stone?" I understand that county surveyors have no right to change government stones; that they stand upon the same footing as ancient monuments. Lines fixed upon such government surveys cannot be changed.

TRESPASSING ON LANDS OF OTHERS.—S. M., Utah, writes: "I have a twenty-five-acre field in the center of a quarter-section, and have a road into the field to use for my own benefit. There are parties on each side, and when they wish to visit each other they go through my field. Have they a right to do so when there is another road?" Certainly not. The parties have no right to cross your land. They are liable for suit in damages for every time they do so.

RIGHTS BETWEEN MAN AND WIFE.—E. M. O., Minnesota, makes inquiry "in reference to rights between man and wife." I would say that under the facts stated she has a right to return to her husband, and if he refuses to allow her to return she should consult a local attorney, who would bring suit for alimony and have the husband restrained from depriving her of the use of the property. Too many facts are stated to give an answer through these columns. Better consult a local lawyer.

INHERITANCE.—J. L. C., Missouri, asks "as to the laws of inheritance of that state." In Missouri all property of a person dying without a will descends, and is distributed, as follows: First, to children or their descendants in equal parts; second, if there be no children or their descendants, then to father, mother, brothers and sisters or their descendants in equal parts; third, the previous class not existing, then to husband or wife. When the husband dies without issue the wife takes one half of the estate and also absolutely all the property which came to him by marriage.

CLAIM FOR DISCOVERY OF GOLD.—S. D., New York, propounds the following: "A. claims to have discovered gold and filed claim on property belonging to B. about six years ago. The property was sold under foreclosure of mortgage, A. having been made a party thereto, and was bought by C. Does A.'s claim still remain good? If A.'s claim is not good, can C. file claim?" The inquirer will be obliged to consult the laws of the state in which the premises are situated for an answer to the above question. It seems that A. having been a party to the action of foreclosure, that C.'s right would be free from his claims, and C., owning the land, would have a right to mine whatever is upon it.

$100.00 Cash for You

Name this picture

We Will Give $100.00 in Cash to the person who suggests the most appropriate name for our beautiful new picture, illustrated on this page. Any one ordering one of the pictures together with a year's subscription to the Farm and Fireside will be allowed to suggest one name. See offers below. Contest closes Jan. 1, 1903.

No. 52 FULL SIZE 20 BY 30 INCHES

NO FRAME REQUIRED

Notice the illustration and see that the artist has displayed more than the usual amount of genius. He has painted a wide gilt border, in exact imitation of a gold frame, so that a *frame is not needed*. It has the full appearance of a handsome gold frame three inches in width. Fasten the four corners to the wall and it will have the full effect of a heavy gold frame. It is quite proper at the present time to hang works of art without frames. However, this picture can be framed if you so desire.

Ten Colors The colors and tints, the lights and shadows that the artist uses in his make-up of the sky and the clouds and the distant hills, the vale and the stream and the meadow; the rosy-cheeked, smiling, beautiful young girl, dressed in pink, and her pet, create one of the most striking and exquisite color pictures of its kind that we have ever seen. The artist has employed no less than ten of the most delicate and beautiful colors and gold in his creation of this charming work of art.

AN IMPARTIAL COMMITTEE will be appointed to choose from among the names that which they believe to be the most appropriate.

THE PERSON SUGGESTING THE NAME THE COMMITTEE ADOPTS WILL RECEIVE $100.00 IN CASH

The Contest Closes January 1, 1903

We will pay agents, canvassers and club-raisers a handsome cash commission to take orders, in connection with yearly subscriptions to the FARM AND FIRESIDE, for this beautiful new picture that needs no frame.

Every Home Should Have It Our ability to reproduce exactly such a magnificent work of art, that usually costs a fortune to own the original, places it within the reach of all. Every home in the land now has a chance to secure one of the pictures. An opportunity like this should be taken at once. The influence for good that high art has on the minds of both the young and the old should not be overlooked. Make home cheerful, bright and attractive, and thus cultivate that which is wholesome and good.

The illustration here can give but a meager idea of the charming beauty of the picture. It must be seen to be appreciated. It is fresh from the artist's brush, and never before offered to the public, so that the FARM AND FIRESIDE readers have the first opportunity to secure a copy.

Subject The subject is a beautiful young girl, with a most pleasing smile, fondling a calf, and the scene is in a meadow-field. The girl is attired in a pretty pink lawn dress with a yoke of loose white material. She wears a rough-straw picture-hat, trimmed with beautiful buttercups, poppies and lilies-of-the-valley.

USE THIS COUPON ONLY FOR NAME OF PICTURE THAT YOU SUGGEST

I suggest as the name of the picture .....

.....

Name of Sender .....

Post-office .....

County ..... *State* .....

Send your order for the paper and the picture (No. 52) on a separate sheet of paper. If you send more than one name, write the others on separate pieces of paper just the size of this coupon.

Ways to get the $100.00

1st We will send one copy of this magnificent new picture, together with a whole year's subscription to the FARM AND FIRESIDE, new or renewal, and allow you to suggest one name for the picture for only 50 cents. Contest closes January 1, 1903

2d You can accept any offer in our paper which includes a year's subscription to the FARM AND FIRESIDE, and add 25 cents extra for one of these pictures, and be entitled to suggest one name for this exquisite and charming new picture.

3d For $1 00 we will send three yearly subscriptions to the FARM AND FIRESIDE (regular clubbing rate is 35c. each) and three pictures, and you will be entitled to suggest three different names for the picture. The papers and pictures can go to different addresses.

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio

FINE NEW PATTERNS

ONLY 10 CENTS

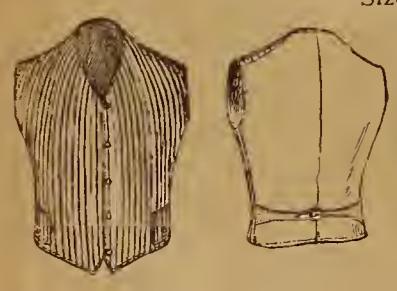
These patterns retail in fashion bazaars and stores for twenty-five to forty cents each, but in order to increase the demand for our paper among strangers, and to make it more valuable than ever to our old friends, we offer them to the lady readers of our paper for the low price of only **10 cents each.**

No. 4272.—Girls' Nightgown. 10 cents. Sizes, 2 to 10 years.

No. 4273.—Blouse or Shirt Waist. 10 cents. Sizes, 32 to 42 inches bust.

No. 4275.—Blouse or Shirt Waist. 10 cents. Sizes, 32 to 42 inches bust.

No. 4274.—Girls' Russian Dress. 10 cents. Sizes, 4 to 12 years.



No. 4270.—Men's Waistcoat. 10 cents. Sizes, 34 to 44 inches breast.

FREE We will give any TWO of these patterns for sending ONE yearly subscription, new or renewal, to the Farm and Fireside at the clubbing price of 35 cents.

No. 4248.—Girls' Slot-seam Costume. 11 cents. Sizes, 6 to 14 years.

We will send the Farm and Fireside One Year, new or renewal, and any ONE pattern for

Only 35 Cents

No. 4255.—Misses' Blouse Jacket. 10 cents. Sizes, 12 to 16 years.

No. 4010.—Leggings. 10 cents. In three lengths—misses', 14 years; girls', 8 years; children's, 4 years.

No. 4256.—Girls' Box-plaited Costume. 11 cents. Sizes, 8 to 14 years.

Full descriptions and directions—as the number of yards of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, *with a picture of the garment to go by.* These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a *separate* pattern for *every single piece* of the dress.

All orders filled promptly.

For ladies, give BUST measure in inches. For SKIRT patterns, give WAIST measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give both BREAST measure in inches and age in years. Order patterns by their numbers.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

To get BUST and BREAST measure, put the tape-measure ALL of the way around the body, over the dress, close under the arms.

Special price of each pattern 10 cents.

Postage one cent EXTRA on skirt, tea-gown and other heavy patterns.

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio

No. 4241.—Shirt-waist. 10 cents. Sizes, 32 to 40 inches bust.

No. 4169.—Girls' Umbrella Drawers. 10 cents. Sizes, 8 to 16 years.

This exquisite Calendar in colors

The 3 sheets (each 13 by 10 inches) are tied together with a silk ribbon, so that they may be readily hung up.

An **exact reproduction** of the charming water-color originals by Maud Stumm, the noted American Water-colorist. Whether you are fond of sweet faces, pretty, dainty gowns and dresses, or delicately tinted, sweet-smelling flowers, this calendar, in **all the original tints and colorings**, will appeal to you.

There are six different designs, which are made up in different combinations of 3 sheets each. The 3 designs we show here will give you an idea of the exquisiteness of them all.

Given Free

One of these beautiful calendars will be sent **FREE** to any one inclosing 40 cents for a year's subscription to the FARM AND FIRESIDE.

(When this offer is accepted no cash commission will be allowed, neither will the name be counted in a club)

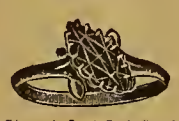
Present Subscribers sending 40 cents may extend their subscription one year from time their present subscription expires, and secure this exquisite 3-sheet calendar.

Order as "No. 17"

We will give this beautiful calendar to any one sending us one new subscription of some one else (not in their own family) to the FARM AND FIRESIDE.

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio

Solid Gold

No. 356 Sizes, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	No. 354 Sizes, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
No. 351 Sizes, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	No. 343  Sizes, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
No. 345 Sizes, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11	No. 342 Sizes, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

No. 356—A Single Large Ruby.
No. 354—A Beautiful Blue Turquoise.
No. 351—A Ruby and Four Pearls.
No. 343—A Large, Finely Cut Emerald.
No. 345—A Handsome Amethyst.
No. 342—Diamond Solitaire, Tiffany Setting.

These are the kind of rings we have sold for ten years without a complaint from our patrons.

Every One Warranted

as represented or your money back.

Wholesale Prices to You

All these rings are solid gold. All the settings are open on the back, so they can be cleaned. These same rings sell for $2.50 and upward. No. 345 if bought in a city jewelry-store would be considered cheap at $3.00. These rings are warranted to be solid gold and to give satisfaction or money refunded. The stones set in the rings are imitations, yet they are so perfect that none but experts can tell the difference, and will last a lifetime.

Beautiful Christmas Presents

FREE Any One of These Solid Gold Rings Given Free for a Club of 6 Yearly Subscriptions to the FARM AND FIRESIDE.

We Will Send the FARM AND FIRESIDE One Year and Any One of These Rings for Only $1.25

To find the size of the ring you wear, take a narrow strip of stiff paper that just meets around the finger you want to fit; lay this strip on measure shown here, one end at A; the other end shows the size to order. Each ring is made in seven sizes only. Always give the size you want.

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio

Sterling-Silver Novelties

Any two given for sending 3 yearly subscriptions (one of which may be your own) at 35 cents each.

We offer here nearly two dozen different useful articles for desk, toilet or the work-basket. They are solid sterling silver of the most artistic design. This is not plated ware, but guaranteed solid silver.

They make beautiful Presents

The Vinaigrette has a sterling top. The steel parts of the various articles are all of the best quality and are highly polished. The Brushes are imported and are fitted with an excellent quality of bristles. The pieces are all of good size, being about three times as large as shown here. These Sterling-Silver novelties make very appropriate presents and will be appreciated by any one who receives them. We send these articles securely packed and postage paid by us. Order as No. 622, and in addition state which article you want.

We will send the FARM AND FIRESIDE One Year and any one of these Sterling-Silver Articles both for 75 Cents

Or we will send the FARM AND FIRESIDE One Year and any two articles for $1.00

(To Club-Raisers:—When the subscriber pays you this special price you are entitled either to the regular cash commission or to count the name in a club)

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio

One Step Nearer Cost

Our New General Catalogue No. 71 brings our 2,000,000 customers nearer than they have ever been before to the actual manufacturing cost of everything they eat, wear or use.

We buy in largest quantities for spot cash, besides having many factories of our own, and sell direct to our customers, saving them the profits of the jobber, wholesaler and retailer—that's the secret.

CHRISTMAS BUYING

has already begun. Retailers are advancing their prices for the holiday trade. Our prices are never advanced, our goods are of the very latest style and best quality, and our customers save one-fourth to one-half on the orders they send us.

Our Catalogue costs us nearly a dollar each to print and forward. We charge 15 cents for it to prevent a wasteful distribution to people who would not *use* it. You can save ten times 15 cts. on your first order.

AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

Send for Catalogue TODAY and get ahead of the Christmas rush.

Montgomery Ward & Co., Chicago.

Enclosed find 15 cents, for which please send me Catalogue No. 71.

Name _____ Write very plain.

Express Office _____ Post Office _____

County _____ State _____

Our catalogue pictures and describes different grades of anything you want, to suit all tastes and purses. Every article we offer is reliable, and you can have your money back willingly and cheerfully if you are not satisfied.

Hadn't you better send for our catalogue today?

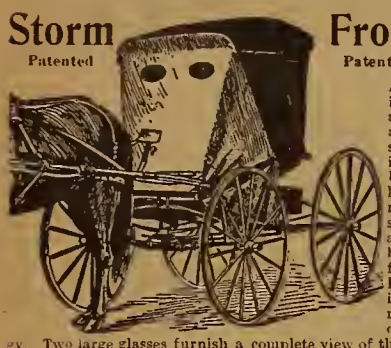
Fill out the slip to the left and send to us with 15c and the catalogue is yours.

Montgomery Ward & Co., Chicago

16

ADJUSTABLE Storm Front

Patented Patented



All who drive in winter will appreciate the adjustable storm front, as it closes up a buggy and keeps out the rain, cold, sleet, snow, and makes the buggy a comfortable place. It can be put on in 30 seconds; no need to get out of the buggy. Two large glasses furnish a complete view of the front. It is adjustable, and *fits any buggy*. It is held on by means of an elastic cord and two hooks at the top and the same at the dash; the sides are fastened with a steel clamp on each side, which fastens on the bow; the clamp fastens on the bow like a clothes-pin on a clothes-line. The sides can be opened with gloves on. Made of best quality of rubber cloth, and guaranteed satisfactory. Send us $3, or get them at any buggy, harness and hardware dealer.

VEHICLE APRON AND HOOD COMPANY
198 East Rich Street, - Columbus, Ohio

STEEL ROOFING

FREIGHT CHARGES PAID BY US

Strictly new, perfect, Semi-Hardened Steel Sheets, 2 feet wide, 6 feet long. The best Roofing, Siding or Ceiling you can use. No experience necessary to lay it. An ordinary hammer or hatchet the only tools you need. We furnish nails free and paint roofing two sides. Comes either flat, corrugated or "V" crimped. **Delivered free of all charges** to all points in the U. S. east of the Mississippi River and North of the Ohio River

AT $2.25 PER SQUARE

Prices to other points on application. A square means 100 square feet. Write for free Catalogue No. 34.

CHICAGO HOUSE WRECKING CO., W. 35th and Iron Sts., Chicago

$100.00 Cash Prize

Why not try for the $100.00 cash prize? It is easy. The simplest name suggested may win the prize. Try for it. See page 18.

LONG DISTANCE SINGLE BARREL SHOTGUN $4.35

SEND US $1.00 deposit, state if the $4.35 or $4.85 gun is wanted, give length of barrel and gauge desired, and we will send this guaranteed long distance single barrel shotgun C.O.D., by express, subject to examination, you to pay the express agent the balance and express charges, after you find it perfectly satisfactory, otherwise we will refund your $1.00.

Breech loading, made with finest blued crucible rolled steel barrel, taper choke bored to size from the solid bar and bored for any nitro powder. Choice of 30 or 32-inch barrel in 12 gauge or 30-inch barrel in 16 gauge. **GUARANTEED** an accurate shooter, a sure killer at a long distance and absolutely the best gun in the world at anywhere near the price.

THIS FINE GUN is made by expert gun makers, every part and piece fitted perfect and reinforced so it cannot shoot loose or shaky, strong rigid steel frame built extra solid to withstand the use of any **NITRO POWDER**, breech loading, barrel of finest crucible rolled steel, taper choke bored to size from the solid bar, latest improved top snap and rebounding hammer, best quality steel works, extra strong spring, fine walnut stock, heavy rubber butt plate, full pistol grip, thoroughly tested for pattern, penetration and strength, weighs 7 lbs. **FOR 50c** extra or $4.85 in all we will furnish the same gun with latest improved automatic shell ejector which throws shell out automatically, making it possible to reload and fire in rapid succession. Order to-day or write for our **SPECIAL GUN CATALOG** which contains ejector single barrel shotguns at $3.85 up, non ejector gun at $3.50 up, double barrel shotguns at $8.85 up and everything in rifles, revolvers, ammunition and sportmen's goods at factory prices. **JOHN M. SMYTH COMPANY** 150 to 166 and 285 to 289 WEST MADISON STREET **CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

Big Bargains in Magazines

Special arrangements have just been completed whereby the FARM AND FIRESIDE offers to its readers unusual bargains in yearly subscriptions to popular magazines. The list below is especially adapted for desirable home reading.

WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION published by The Crowell Publishing Co., is edited and made up in New York City, the leading literary and art center of America. It contains the most timely illustrated articles, most beautiful illustrations, best short stories, most popular serial stories, practical household departments, and the best of everything desirable for a home magazine. It is printed on the finest paper, has 44 to 60 large pages, 11 by 16 inches. The twelve numbers will contain more than one thousand beautiful illustrations. Its 360,000 copies each month carry a message of help, profit, pleasure, education, culture and refinement to over two million readers. Its writers and artists are the most famous in America. It is altogether the cleanest, brightest, handsomest, choicest and best of American home magazines. Monthly, $1.00 a year; 10 cents the copy.

COSMOPOLITAN This magazine covers every branch of human interest with timely, suggestive, well-written and finely illustrated articles by the best authors. It has no superior as a magazine of general and varied attractions, and is widely known through its many years of successful life. Monthly, $1.00 a year.

SUCCESS has well been called "The Great Magazine of Inspiration, Progress and Self-Help." It is bright, cheerful and optimistic. In thousands of ways it tells people of all ages, classes and callings how to achieve success in life. Its contributors include the best-known names. Monthly, $1.00 a year.

EVERYBODY'S MAGAZINE is a clean, bright, wholesome, entertaining family magazine. The aim of Everybody's Magazine is to give its readers each month interesting, vital and well-written stories and articles. For a free specimen copy address JOHN WANAMAKER, Publisher, New York City.

Our Great Bargains

$1.50 for $1.00

FARM AND FIRESIDE one year . . . . . $ .50
Also a chance to get $100.00 Cash (see below)
WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION one year . . . 1.00
} Both for **$1.10**

FARM AND FIRESIDE one year . . . . . $ .50
Also a chance to get $100.00 Cash (see below)
Any One of These Three { SUCCESS, or COSMOPOLITAN, or EVERYBODY'S MAGAZINE } one year . 1.00
} Both Papers One Year for **$1.00**

$2.50 for $1.50

FARM AND FIRESIDE one year . . . . . $ .50
Also a chance to get $100.00 Cash (see below)
Any Two of These Three { SUCCESS, COSMOPOLITAN, EVERYBODY'S } one year 2.00
} All Three Papers for Only **$1.50**

$2.50 for $1.25

FARM AND FIRESIDE one year . . . . . $ .50
Also a chance to get $100.00 Cash (see below)
Any One of These Three { SUCCESS, or COSMOPOLITAN, or EVERYBODY'S } one year . . . 1.00
THE NEW PRIZE PICTURE (see page 18) . . 1.00
(If our New Prize Picture could be bought in art-stores it would readily bring $1.00)
} Two Papers and the Picture for Only **$1.25**

$3.50 for $2.00

FARM AND FIRESIDE one year . . . . . $ .50
Also a chance to get $100.00 Cash (see below)
SUCCESS one year 1.00
COSMOPOLITAN one year 1.00
EVERYBODY'S MAGAZINE one year 1.00
} All Four Papers for Only **$2.00**

$100.00 Cash Prize

Any one accepting any of the above offers is entitled to suggest names for our "New Prize Picture" described on Page 18 of this paper, and try for the $100.00 Cash Prize.

(To Club-Raisers:—When the subscriber pays you this special price you are entitled either to the regular cash commission or to count the name in a Farm and Fireside Club)

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ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION { One Year (24 Numbers) . . 50 Cents; Six Months (12 Numbers) . . 30 Cents

The above rates include the payment of postage by us. All subscriptions commence with the issue on press when the order is received.

Subscribers receive this paper twice a month, which is twice as often as most other farm and poultry journals are issued.

Payment, when sent by mail, should be made in Express or Post-office Money-orders, Bank Checks or Drafts. *When neither of these can be procured*, send the money in a registered letter. All postmasters are required to register letters whenever requested to do so. *Do not send checks on banks in small towns.*

Silver, when sent through the mail, should be carefully wrapped in cloth or strong paper, so as not to wear a hole through the envelope and get lost.

Postage-stamps will be received in payment for subscriptions in sums less than one dollar, if for every 25 cents in stamps you add one one-cent stamp extra, as we must sell postage-stamps at a loss.

The date on the "yellow label" shows the time to which each subscriber has paid. Thus: Jan1903 means that the subscription is paid up to January, 1903; Feb1903, to February, 1903, and so on. When a coin-card order-blank is inclosed with your paper it means your time is out and is an invitation to you to renew.

When money is received, the date will be changed within four weeks, so that the label will answer for a receipt.

When renewing your subscription do not fail to say it is a renewal. If all our subscribers will do this a great deal of trouble will be avoided. *Also give your name and initials just as now on the yellow address label; don't change it to some other member of the family; if the paper is now coming in your wife's name, sign her name, just as it is on label, to your letter of renewal.*

Discontinuances.—Subscribers wishing their paper discontinued should write us to that effect and pay up all arrearages. If this is not done, it is assumed that the subscriber wishes the paper continued and intends to pay when convenient.

Always name your post-office.

COMMENT

ANTI-TRUST LEGISLATION

In his second annual message President Roosevelt earnestly recommends national control of trusts under the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce, as follows:

"Corporations, and especially combinations of corporations, should be managed under public regulation. Experience has shown that under our system of government the necessary supervision cannot be obtained by state action. It must, therefore, be achieved by national action.

"Our aim is not to do away with corporations; on the contrary, these big aggregations are an inevitable development of modern industrialism, and the effort to destroy them would be futile unless accomplished in ways that would work the utmost mischief to the entire body politic. We can do nothing of good in the way of regulating and supervising these corporations until we fix clearly in our minds that we are not attacking the corporations, but endeavoring to do away with any evil in them. We are not hostile to them; we are merely determined that they shall be so handled as to subserve the public good. We draw the line against misconduct, not against wealth.

"The capitalist who, alone or in conjunction with his fellows, performs some great industrial feat by which he wins money is a well-doer, not a wrong-doer, provided only he works in proper and legitimate lines. We wish to favor such a man when he does well. We wish to supervise and control his actions only to prevent him from doing ill. Publicity can do no harm to the honest corporation, and we need not be overtender about sparing the dishonest corporation.

"In curbing and regulating the combinations of capital which are or may become injurious to the public, we must be careful not to stop the great enterprises which have legitimately reduced the cost of production; not to abandon the place which our country has won in the leadership of the international industrial world; not to strike down the wealth, with the result of closing factories and mines, of turning the wage-worker idle in the streets, and leaving the farmer without a market for what he grows. Insistence upon the impossible means delay in achieving the possible, exactly as, on the other hand, the stubborn defense alike of what is good and what is bad in the existing system, the resolute effort to obstruct any attempt at betterment, betrays blindness to the historic truth that wise evolution is the sure safeguard against revolution.

"No more important subject can come before Congress than this of the regulation of interstate business. This country cannot afford to sit supine on the plea that under our peculiar system of government we are helpless in the presence of the new conditions, and unable to grapple with them or to cut out whatever of evil has arisen in connection with them. The power of the Congress to regulate interstate commerce is an absolute and unqualified grant, and without limitations other than those prescribed by the Constitution. The Congress has Constitutional authority to make all laws necessary and proper for executing this power, and I am satisfied that this power has not been exhausted by any legislation now on the statute-books.

"It is evident, therefore, that evils restrictive of commercial freedom and entailing restraint upon national commerce fall within the regulative power of the Congress, and that a wise and reasonable law would be a necessary and proper exercise of Congressional authority, to the end that such evils should be eradicated.

"I believe that monopolies, unjust discriminations, which prevent or cripple competition, fraudulent overcapitalization, and other evils in trust-organizations, and practices which injuriously affect interstate trade, can be prevented under the power of the Congress to 'regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several states,' through regulations and requirements operating directly upon such commerce, the instrumentalities thereof and those engaged therein."

CATTLE-PLAGUE IN NEW ENGLAND

No little alarm has been caused by the outbreak of the foot and mouth disease in New England. It is a highly contagious, imported disease, but it is not yet known how and when it was introduced. It was distributed to a number of localities before it was recognized. Doctor Salmon, chief of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, after a personal investigation, reports: "The situation is very disquieting, principally because cattle-dealers have been selling diseased animals and scattering the contagion, and because there has been no adequate conception of the danger of carrying the disease by persons who have visited diseased herds."

There is no occasion for a panic among cattlemen and dairymen of the country, as the federal and state authorities are now using vigorous measures to prevent any further extension of the disease. The transportation of cattle from any one of the New England states to another has been forbidden, and diseased herds will be slaughtered. The British authorities have prohibited the importation of cattle from the New England ports. After their costly experience with the Gipsy-moth, the citizens of the region quarantined will have little objection to the sternest measures adopted for the extermination of the disease.

SHAMROCK, THE GRAND CHAMPION

At the recent International Live Stock Exposition in Chicago the judges declared Shamrock to be the grand champion of all steers at the show, and awarded to him nine first and three special prizes amounting to more than five hundred dollars. Shamrock is a two-year-old Angus grade, weighing eighteen hundred pounds, and was bred and exhibited by the Iowa Agricultural College.

AFFAIRS OF NOTE AND MEN OF MARK

Joseph G. Cannon, who will succeed David B. Henderson (resigned) as Speaker of the House of Representatives, was born of Quaker parents at Guilford, N. C., May, 1836. When he was four years old his family removed to Indiana. When he was fourteen his father died, and Joseph had a hard struggle to make a living and acquire an education. He began the practice of law at Shelbyville, Ill., and later removed to Tuscola. In 1861 he was elected state's attorney, and held the office until 1868. In 1872 he was elected to Congress, and has been reëlected every term since with one exception. He was nominated every time but one by acclamation. For twenty years he has been a member, and for eight years chairman, of the Committee on Appropriations. As a legislator and leader "Honest Joe" has gained a high reputation for economy, fairness and integrity.

Among the busy, progressive and successful men of the day whose work both in their own special line and in public affairs has been a most important factor in the development of the country and in its general prosperity, none have been more active than the manufacturers. Of these a notable example is Mr. Martin Kingman, recently elected president of the National Association of Agricultural Implement and Vehicle Manufacturers. For nearly thirty-five years he has been engaged with marked success in the manufacturing industry, and now stands in the first rank of the able men who have made the agricultural machinery of this country the best in the world.

John Coit Spooner, senator from Wisconsin, was born at Lawrenceburg, Ind., January 6, 1843. In 1859 his father, a distinguished lawyer and judge in the courts of Indiana, moved to Madison, Wis. Senator Spooner was graduated from the University of Missouri in 1864. He entered the Union army as a private in a Wisconsin company of infantry, became captain, and was brevetted major at the close of the Civil War. He was admitted to the bar in 1867, was assistant attorney-general for three years, and soon acquired a large practice and gained a high reputation for legal learning and ability. In 1885 he was elected United States Senator; in 1891 he was succeeded by William F. Vilas, whom he in turn succeeded in 1897. Although one of the younger senators, the "Little Giant," by virtue of his broad-mindedness, wisdom in council and force in debate, is a power in that inner circle of leaders who now control legislation in Congress, and his impress is on nearly every important act passed in recent years.

Major-general Adna R. Chaffee, on his return home after serving as military-governor of the Philippines, said: "The rule of the United States has meant great things for the Filipinos, and most of them know it. What the American people must now do is to hold themselves unanimously to their work if they expect to continue it all, and then surely, in time, the great archipelago will enjoy the blessings of a thoroughly organized and beneficent government. One must not think that such an outcome can be reached in forty days; indeed, one hundred years would be more like the proper limit. But from the wonders that America has already accomplished, I look for a much speedier completion of the work."

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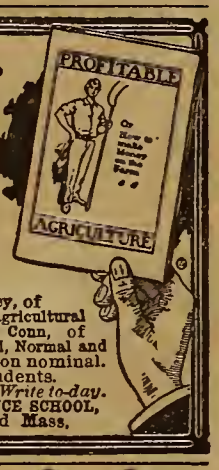

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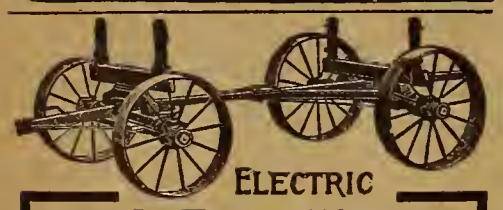

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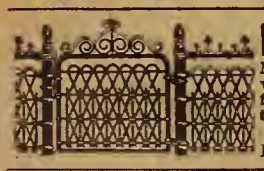

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Mr. Greiner Says:

THE PEPPERMINT-OIL INDUSTRY.—Most crops have their ups and downs. So it is with peppermint. Years ago this was a leading crop in Wayne County and vicinity of this state, and the growers made some money. Then other localities, especially in Michigan, began to grow peppermint, and prices of the oil soon fell below the profit-point for Wayne County growers, and they gave up in disgust. It is said that speculators in New York and London have ruined the market for essential oils by manipulations and adulterations, so that the crops have been produced at a loss to the growers for some years. This year's crop is reported to be only one half of the usual crop, due largely to excessive rainfall, and prices have risen within a few months from two dollars and fifty cents to five dollars a pound. Kalamazoo has not only become a famous center of celery-production, but also of the essential-oil industry of the world. Over ninety per cent of the genuine oil of peppermint of the world is said to be made from peppermint grown within a radius of seventy-five miles of Kalamazoo.

ALFALFA FOR FODDER.—On the New York State Experiment Station grounds at Geneva I witnessed the harvesting of a fine crop of alfalfa (probably the second or third this year), and noticed what excellent hay it makes; and from the car-window in the same vicinity I saw a farmer mowing a mess from a small patch with the scythe for his two cows, which were waiting on the other side of the fence for their supper. When seeing a piece of alfalfa I always regret that I do not have a piece of land suitable to put in alfalfa. A very little patch of it would furnish the most excellent green feed for my cattle for just about six or seven months, without extra labor, and year after year. Commence at one end, cutting the daily supply, and when in a month or so you get to the other end, you can go right back and go over the same ground again, and repeat this until the end of the open season. Dry weather is not apt to cut the crop short, either. Having no piece of deep, naturally drained soil, such as alfalfa requires, available for it, I have to sow oats and peas and soy-beans and cow-peas, all of which, although excellent for the purpose, make extra labor, and only by great care in timing the planting give me the continuous supply so easily secured by means of growing a patch of alfalfa. This is eminently the crop for green fodder.

PRODUCE-BUYING SWINDLERS.—A move is on foot among western New York produce-shippers to check the operations of parties throughout the country who make contracts for car-loads of apples, potatoes, cabbage, onions, etc., to be paid for at the end of the route, and with intent to reject such shipments there in case the market goes down, throwing the shipper into the hole for a big loss. These fellows do a big and a safe business. They take no chances. On a rising market they pocket good profits; on a falling market they simply repudiate the deal, leaving the goods and the loss on the shipper's hands. The proposition is to maintain a central office, to which all cases of such swindling practices are reported, and which in turn informs every shipper belonging to the combination of all the particulars in the case. The idea is all right. In all deals involving the shipment of fruits and other products on orders some trusting has to be done. The seller may ship trusting that the buyer will pay for the goods at the other end, or the buyer may pay for the goods in advance trusting that the shipper will ship goods according to orders or agreement. If the producer or shipper has an established reputation for square dealing or for the superior quality of his goods, he can insist on payment, at least partially, in advance before he ships his goods. I would, under all circumstances, refuse to ship a car-load of produce without such prepayment to any party not well known to me as reliable. Farmers and fruit-growers who are too ready to give credit to strangers have only themselves to blame if they fall into a trap thereby.

HOME-GROWN PROTEIN.—Fat-forming foods—corn and corn fodder, ordinary hay, etc.—are easily produced or procurable. The question is ever with us where to get protein, the blood-and-muscle-making material, in the cheapest way. The New Jersey Experiment Station has recently made some experiments and investigations with alfalfa, cow-peas and Crimson clover as a source of home-grown protein, and reports the results in Bulletin No. 161. I have for years relied largely on wheat bran to supply protein to my stock. Few people would suspect, however, that alfalfa hay, and next to it Crimson-clover hay, contain a larger percentage of blood-and-muscle-making materials than wheat bran, and almost as much as dried brewers' grains. The bulletin here mentioned says: "A home-grown ration composed of thirteen pounds of alfalfa hay and thirty pounds of corn silage proved both practical and economical when fed in comparison with a ration in which over two thirds of the protein was derived from wheat bran and dried brewers' grains. Milk was produced from the home-grown ration for two thirds of that from the feed ration." This again proves the great value of alfalfa, especially when we consider its perennial character and the fact that it can be cut half a dozen times during the same season and will furnish more hay than any ordinary grass. When I am reminded of these facts I feel an intensified regret at my inability to grow either alfalfa or Crimson clover to advantage. Both crops require naturally drained soil, and it is useless to plant them on clay loam. But even Crimson clover, although considered a Southern crop, has done well year after year on a hillside orchard of gravelly loam soil in Ontario County, where winters are usually much severer than they are in my own locality. Alfalfa and Crimson clover, wherever they can be grown, will prove a blessing and the salvation of the farmer who wants protein for stock.

Mr. Grundy Says:

UNCOVERED CORN-CRIBS.—In a drive of about eight miles I counted fourteen cribs full, or nearly full, of corn and without any cover, and two heavy rains had fallen on them. Three belonged to a man whom I invited to our farmers' institute, and he informed me that he could learn more in his field than at any farmers' institute on earth. In talking to a grain-buyer about these uncovered cribs, he said that the owners will lose at least five cents on every bushel of corn so exposed. "They will bring the corn here," said he, "and expect to get the highest price for it. We cannot afford to pay it, and they will kick and swear about it, and declare we are trying to cheat them."

EVERGREEN WIND-BREAKS.—Now that the leaves are off the trees the evergreens appear more beautiful than ever. The dark green spruces seem to defy the wintry blasts, and the tall pines toss their long, feathery plumes when the wind whistles through them. What a grand wind-break the arbor-vitæ makes! The chickens gather on the lee side of it on a cold day, and cuddle down together, looking as comfortable as though in a sunny house. When I first came on this place it was exposed to every wintry blast that came along, and it seemed to me to be the coldest place I ever lived in. When spring came I lost no time in planting trees, lots of them, probably not as wisely as I would plant now, but I got them in the ground and started. That was ten years ago. Now, when the west wind howls, we scarcely notice it, for it goes harmlessly over our heads. The orchard checks the blast, then the spruces, arbor-vitæs and cedars stop it, and the falling snow settles down as smoothly as it does in the woods. When the washings on my neighbors' clothes-lines are whipped almost to tatters, that on mine hangs with scarcely a flop. I notice that while a great many people plant trees for shade, very few plant them for wind-breaks. A wind-break is, in my opinion, quite as important as shade, and when a person has lived one winter under the protection of a good one he will place a higher value upon it than on shade in summer. A good wind-break saves its cost every year. It saves fuel and feed. My house is as warm again as it was when the west winds struck it with full force. It then seemed to me to have a thousand chinks, through which the wind found its way. It is the same house now, but there are no creeping drafts coming from the corners and around the doors and windows to chill one through. On a bitter cold day one bucketful of coal goes as far as two did before my trees grew up. It is a good thing to plant trees for shade, and while you are planting don't forget to plant a good wind-break. You will find it time and money well spent. Plant a double row of Norway spruce, arbor-vitæ or cedars, and in a few years you will pat yourself on the back for being so wise.

"LUCKY" AND "UNLUCKY."—Last week we had a heavy rain-storm, that lasted all night and put a short stop to corn-husking. The following morning I was passing the home of a prosperous farmer, and saw him and his hired man a short distance from the house, busy sawing and chopping. As I knew that he burned coal, I went in to see what he was doing. On one side was a pile of waste wood—old posts, the trunks and large branches of apple and maple trees, pieces of rails, short bits of boards, and all sorts of odds and ends that had been gathered up about the place—and this they were converting into fire-wood. "You see," said the owner, "we are at work this morning doing what we can to beat the coal barons. We couldn't get into the field to husk corn, so we are putting this waste material into shape for use in the stoves. This stuff burns nicely in my coal-stoves with the addition of a small quantity of coal, and it will make my coal-supply last at least six weeks longer. Whenever I have any waste wood of this sort we haul it to this pile to get it out of the way, and when we are shut out of the field by rain we work this into fire-wood. It saves coal and keeps the yards clean."

As I said, this man is a prosperous farmer, and just this sort of management is what has made him prosperous. He is not noted for being a hard worker—one of those late-and-early fellows who work by lantern-light at both ends of the day—but he is known to be a steady worker and a good manager. No one ever heard a hired man of his complain that he is a hard man to work for, but many have heard them say that he is very particular and wants the work done right, and that he knows what right is. He has no advantages over his neighbors to speak of, yet he is richer than any of them, and the reason is plain. His poorer neighbors lay his prosperity to "luck."

Half a mile further down the road lives another farmer who is very "unlucky." He is in debt and close run all the time. The neighbors say that he is a hard worker and has lots of good sense, but for some reason he can't get ahead. He begins at least an hour earlier in the morning than the other man, and stays at it a full hour later, but "luck" is against him, and it is all uphill. When I reached his place I drove into the yard, ostensibly to look at his hogs, but really to discover the source of his "bad luck." He was not at home. He had gone to town because he couldn't get into the field to husk corn, so his wife said. Scattered about the yards lay twice the quantity of waste wood that the other man had piled up. The hogs had rooted a hole under one of the fences, and he had "stuffed" it with pieces of posts and brush. A small door of the barn had been fastened shut by leaning a short post against it, but the pigs had knocked it down, and several of them were inside the oats-bin scattering the oats about. His wife appeared to be very much concerned about this, and remarked that he would be "very mad about it!" An hour later I saw him in town, sitting on a bench with a lot more farmers, chattering and laughing and apparently having a good time.

All Over the Farm

SCIENCE AND THE FARMER

Most farmers formerly were afraid of the word "science" when it dealt with agriculture, and many quite good farmers still "shy" at it. The trouble has been that much stuff has been credited with being science simply because some theorist so regarded it, when it was nothing of the kind. Now we know that science is merely knowledge, and the science of anything is the knowledge of that thing arranged in an orderly way so that one's comprehension of the knowledge may be correct. Some things are known about farming. A practical farmer will tell you to manure a field heavily for one kind of crop and less heavily for another kind. Experience has taught him that certain plants require more fertility than other plants, or else that they cannot get hold of the plant-food already in the soil as readily as others, and must be well fed with manure or fertilizer. That is knowledge; it is science—a bit of science. We need all of this knowledge that we can get; hence the development of the science pertaining to agriculture. The man of long experience, if he has judgment, is a better farmer than he was at first. He has gained knowledge. But we need the experiences of others who can tell just what the conditions were that produced certain results. These add to our knowledge and save us from mistakes. Such experiences, or the conclusions that may safely be drawn from them, are given in experiment-station bulletins, in books written by men who have knowledge that we need, and in the farm papers. The correct conclusions from experience or experiments form the science that enables us to farm more intelligently than we could with less knowledge.

College Training.—A great number of boys and young men are taking the agricultural course in our colleges. They are putting in all their time getting hold of the known facts about plants, soils and animals. Very many of them will never farm, because they will be in demand as experimenters and educators at salaries that look large to us farmers. There is no brighter field for the young man of agricultural tastes to-day than in scientific agricultural investigation and instruction. The demand for good men exceeds the supply. The bright graduate from an agricultural college can go direct into work that pays far more money than the average young lawyer gets from his practice.

Station Bulletins.—These schools are not now for you and I, and my thought was to call attention to our means for gaining accurate knowledge of our chosen work, in order that we may succeed better. Winter evenings were made especially for the farmer. They are the time to lay a better foundation for winning next year. Every one has a certain kind of live stock or certain kinds of field crops that afford him special interest. Usually they are the ones that pay him best. Among the forty-odd experiment stations of this country there are some that give special attention to this certain kind of stock or these particular crops. Trained experimenters are working year after year with most kinds of soils, fertilizers, crops and live stock, adding to the stock of knowledge about them. Write your experiment station for the names of two or three leading stations making a specialty of that line of investigation that interests you most. Then write these stations for their bulletins, secure your own state-station bulletins, and read up carefully on the experiments that have been made. See whether the conclusions tally with your own; learn what is to be known in your particular department of production.

Some Books.—These experiment-station bulletins are not sufficient. A few books have been written by men who had knowledge gotten from years of experience and of study of others' experience, and such books make safe reading. If you want a list of such books, write the agricultural college of your state, stating what subjects interest you most in farming, and asking for a short list of practical, helpful, easily understood books treating such subjects. Then buy them, and by reading you can add to the knowledge you have gotten through your own experience.

Farm Papers.—The family that is without an agricultural paper, and yet is dependent upon farming for a living, is missing a good investment. Certainly it is a poor sort of fellow who cannot get several times the cost of the Farm and Fireside out of it in the course of a year's time. Not everything in it is true for your soil and locality—and there would be little variety in this world if it were otherwise—but there is something in every issue that should be suggestive to you and would help you to better farming. The farm paper carries to others the experience and conclusions of many careful farmers, and no farmer should depend alone upon his own conclusions without the benefit of any other one's experience. It is not good business, to say the least, and will not be until the farmer is found who knows as much as all the rest of the world. He will be a pretty wise man, but certainly will feel fearfully lonesome.

The Reading Habit.—Whether you have the reading habit or not, foster that habit in your children. Farm life would seem less dreary and winter evenings would not seem so long to the boys and girls if they were given the habit of reading by the presence of an abundance of bright publications adapted to their needs. The list of the right kind of publications is long. The brightest men and women are writing for the popular and cheap publications, and there is no need of permitting anything degrading or trashy to enter our homes. I could name a score of publications that would entertain and instruct parents and children alike, and not one of them expensive. It is better to set aside a few dollars for such winter reading and to fix the reading habit upon the children than to let them look forward to the day when they hope to escape from dull winter evenings at home.

David.

HE HAD THE HIDE LEFT

"Well, it may be my farm has been skinned, but I've got the hide." This is the homely way an old man who had passed the time of life when he could do his own farm work spoke when some one asked him if his place was not running down under the system of allowing much of the land to lie idle and hiring the work done that seemed actually necessary to be done. Then he added, "I can't do the work myself, and I don't think it would pay me to rent it. You can't find a man that will do the fair thing once in a hundred times. As it is now, I am my own boss. If I want a piece of land plowed, I can say how it shall be done. I know how things are carried on, which I would not if I was to let my place out on shares. If the place is being skinned, I have got the hide."

Those who have had the often unpleasant experience of renting their farms can sympathize with this old man very heartily. We all know how nearly impossible it is to secure as tenants men who will be content to do the fair thing by the farmer as well as by himself. Now and then a farmer succeeds in finding as tenant a man who will do this, but they really are scarce. It is a great question what we shall do when the time comes that we cannot do our own work. The most of us think the only thing to do is to take up with the best man we can find, move out, and let things go as they will. And we all know how they will go in most cases. We dread to go back to the old farm lest the slipping back may make us homesick—and so it usually does.

There is more than a little sense in what this good old farmer said. If we stay right on the farm ourselves, hiring such work done as we cannot do ourselves, the chances are that in the long run we will take more comfort and perhaps make just as much as if we turned things over to a careless tenant and took what we could get.

Is there not a sermon here for the men who make a business of renting farms for a living? If they would do the right thing, care for the interests of the owner of the farm, and not set out at once to get everything they can for themselves, leaving the farm starved and worthless, they might be sure of permanent homes and a good living. This is said in the kindliest spirit possible, conceding that there are many men who are honest and earnest in their work as tenants. But we want more such men. There is a crying need of them, and we must have them. Will some one tell us where to find them?

E. L. Vincent.

THE FARM STONE PROBLEM

Every plowing brings up a fresh crop of stones where they abound, and the question of their best bestowal is a yearly problem to many. In the alluvial valleys and prairie country an opportunity to thus plow up a supply of stone would often be welcomed, but they are a source of great aversion to the farmer lad in stony sections of the country, and to his elders as well. One writer has recently spoken of the too common practice of leaving loose stone on fields otherwise well cared for, or, a custom about equally bad, of simply moving them temporarily from place to place. Such a practice is certainly bad management, and soon results in promiscuous and unsightly piles being found around stumps and fences—stone too large to be moved readily. The writer referred to advocates and practises the removal of all stone from the tilled fields to locations where they may be permanently left until use is found for them. Such disposal is certainly a vast improvement on the first-mentioned practice. It was formerly the writer's until he became satisfied that he was injuring the land thus treated. All soil was originally disintegrated rock, and the dissolving process is still going slowly on wherever stone comes in contact with the elements. Thus by the constant removal of all stone we are robbing the soil of no inconsiderable amount of fertility, besides depriving it of the heating influence and mechanical loosening effect afforded by stone or gravel in the soil. After giving the matter thought, the writer adopted the plan of breaking with a stone-hammer on their native soil, just where left by tillage, all flat and other stone found to be sufficiently rotten to be breakable. He found that much the greater part of the stone could be thus broken in pieces small enough to give no further trouble, even quicker and with less labor than they could be loaded for hauling. The best disposal of loose stone and stone-piles, brush and other disfiguring accumulations on the farm gives a fairly good criterion by which to judge of a farmer's progressiveness or lack of it.

B. F. W. Thorpe.

ALFALFA IN THE SOUTH

Prof. W. R. Dodson, Botanist of the Louisiana Experiment Station, at Baton Rouge, in a recent excellent, practical article on alfalfa culture in that state, concludes the same as follows: "Since the annexation of Cuba in the near future seems to be almost a certainty, we have additional cause to be casting about for supplementary resources to help make cotton a surplus crop, especially in the hill lands. It is my firm conviction that nothing will contribute so much as alfalfa toward making the Southern farm self-supplied with feed for work-animals, for the production of dairy products and home-raised meat. I hope every opportunity will be seized for extending a knowledge of the merits of this most wonderful crop."

* * *

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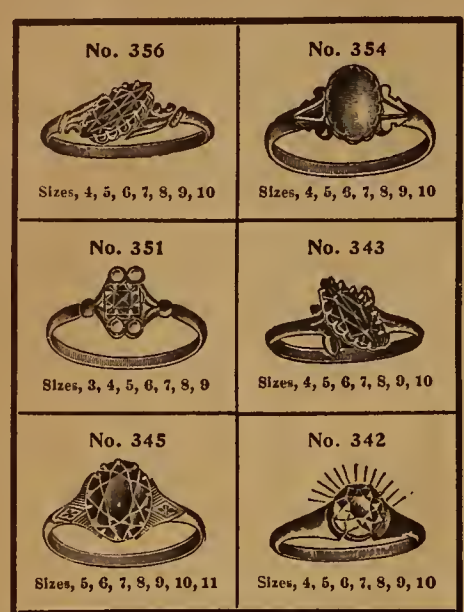

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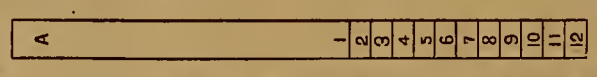

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In the Field

SWINDLING THE FARMERS

If there is anything the farmers of this country need to guard against it is the men who come along with schemes offering to give them so much for so little. Just now I am thinking of a case in which a man and his wife are living in constant fear lest they may be turned out of house and home by a lightning-rod scoundrel. The farmer was induced to sign a paper the contents of which he did not understand, but which promises to be a note of hand involving several hundred dollars, given in payment for lightning-rods. It was an old, old scheme, and yet men are constantly being led away by just such old forms of rascality. The laws of our country ought to be strengthened so as to protect the farmer against all such trickery. Our farmers do not expect to be swindled on every hand. They want to look upon everybody as true, honest men. If once deceived they are inclined to think there are no honest people left in the world. And there are lots of them. But every farmer ought to be exceedingly slow to have anything to do with the stranger who promises such wonderful things for so little outlay. There are houses doing a legitimate business in all these ways. Patronize them, if any one. Keep the eyes open against every smooth-tongued stranger. That alone is safety. E. L. Vincent.

THOMAS SLAG

In Germany large quantities of basic slag are annually sold under the name of Thomas slag. In phosphatic slags produced by Bessemer converters the content of phosphoric acid usually runs from ten to twenty-five per cent. When first introduced it was argued that when untreated with acid they would be useless as fertilizers; that the phosphoric acid they contained was not directly available for plants, and that the ferous oxid would prove positively injurious to vegetable life. Field experiments with finely ground, but otherwise untreated, slags have proven conclusively that they are excellent fertilizers. As a result, the use of Thomas slag as a fertilizer has increased steadily, and it is now an important article of commerce, especially in Europe, and to a considerable extent in California also. During last year over one thousand tons were sold and used in the United States as a fertilizer. The Maryland Experiment Station reports show that slag phosphate gave a greater total yield than did any of the other insoluble phosphates. The yield of corn with slag phosphate was not quite so much as with bone-meal, but the yield of wheat and grass was greater. All yields were produced at less cost with slag phosphate than with bone-meal. The slag used in these experiments contained only a total of 16.32 per cent of phosphoric acid, whereas this fertilizer should, and usually does, contain from 21.03 to 22.24 per cent, and the very best quality a still higher percentage. * * *

A LITTLE LEARNING

In a newspaper published in one of the most progressive agricultural districts in the country the following appeared: "Scientific farming may be all right, but it does not bring the bread and butter for the family." Now, the author of that opinion makes a broad, hasty and untrue statement. He is confounding scientific farming with theoretical farming, and while the latter has brought much discredit upon new ideas in agriculture, as well as loss to many overconfident followers of it, true scientific farming never did anything of the kind, and never will.

The scientific farmer is one who is a student, and, so far as may be, the master, of his business. The farmer who can plow the straight, well-turned furrow; who can tell when to cut his grass for hay, and tell when the hay is made; who can make his dairy produce the largest income from the amount of labor and money invested; who knows how to save all the manure, and where and how and when to apply it for best results in both crops and soil-enrichment—the one who knows how to do things well and right and at the right time is the scientific farmer.

The carpenter who makes every stroke of his saw or hatchet do something and do it right is scientific. So also is the surgeon who saves a wounded limb instead of cutting it off, and who cuts it off right when amputation is necessary. The engineer who gets the most power from a given amount of fuel; the writer of the best-drawing "ad;" the wood-chopper who can make the tree fall where he wants it, who can strike his ax twice or twenty times in the one place, are all scientific.

Science is knowledge, skill and being able. as the woodsman, to strike twice in the same place. Why should such skill and knowledge be denied the farmer, or why should he discount and ridicule their possession? On the other hand, as we learn more, understand more, become more truly scientific, then only shall we become more able to meet the changing conditions and aspects of our business and attain more success.

I have no defense to make for theoretical farming. Science is another name for correctness. Theory may be correct or not. When it is proven correct, it is then a part of science. Theoretical farming is doing more to bring discredit upon advanced farming than any other agency. It is the windfalls from the false teachers—the unripe and unripening teaching of the uncertain schools.

The professor of agriculture will tell me I need to plow ten to twelve inches deep; that, if possible, I should subsoil; that I should plow in the fall and get the benefit of the freezing and thawing. In my soil it is unwise to do either; in some of it it would be impossible to do the former. The professors and some careless teachers with no professional embellishment to their names assure me that lime is a plant-food, and that I must use it if I would grow clover and wear diamonds. Theoretically, they appear to be right; but scientifically, for my land they are wrong. Following their theory I could spend eight dollars an acre for lime, and shorten my corn or potato crop. Instead, I spend four or five dollars an acre for a scientific application of rock and potash, and have crops to dream about. The theoretical dairyman, who is not a milker of cows nor a payer for the feed thereof, insists that we must use the balanced ration or have no profit in our dairies. The scientific old farmer will feed a dairy-cow a ration wider than the scope of some teachers' horizon, and come out ahead every time. The scientific advertiser will assure me that I need a biscuit or a flake or a shred when my scientific need is likely fried mush, sausage, new milk, buckwheat cakes and honey.

At my hand is a letter from a friend who is intensely a scientific farmer and dairyman. To him theory is heresy; science an abiding faith. He writes: "I have a letter this evening from a young man in ———— (a large city) who wants to learn modern farming, but in his letter he knows so much, or thinks he does, that he would like to be manager of a farm in order to learn it. To tell the truth, he knows too much already to ever learn farming."

This friend knows what a scarecrow the word "scientific" is to farmers—as it is to the one I first quoted—so he chooses the word not so likely to offend, "modern." With all our search-lights of science we have not found a "royal road to learning," as the correspondent of my friend will learn. If he has some theory, he may do some popular farming at institute-work in his state—if he votes right; but if he wants to master modern farming, he must do it as Robert Burns mastered poesy, with his hand on the plow. W. F. McSparran.

Gardening

By T. GREINER

Dwarf Essex Rape.—A patch of rape was sown in a vacant spot during August. In November the rape covered the ground with a mass of green stuff two feet high, and my poultry had all they wanted of it. Still the green leaves of a lot of flat turnips were eaten by them just as greedily, and were probably just as good as the rape.

Soil-sterilization.—The practice of sterilizing the soil for greenhouse or cold-frame work is coming more and more in vogue with large market-gardeners. Exposure to steam heat, which raises the temperature to above one hundred and fifty or one hundred and sixty, or even one hundred and eighty, degrees, will kill the germs of damping-off, blights, rots, etc. Mr. W. W. Rawson says he can now grow better crops on sterilized soil under glass than outdoors. We who have not the facilities for sterilizing the soil in this manner must content ourselves with changing the soil on our greenhouse-benches every year, getting a new supply where we believe it to be uninfected from such disease-germs.

Chicory Varieties.—Last spring I sent to one of our oldest seed-firms (the one that catalogues almost everything in the line of vegetable, flower, shrub or tree seeds) for a packet of every kind of chicory kept in stock by them. I received three varieties; namely, common chicory, Magdeburg and Witloof, all of which were planted. When digging the roots a few days ago I looked in vain for striking differences between them. Some specimens of the common chicory seemed to have more sprawling, irregular roots than the rest; but Magdeburg and Witloof appear to be exactly alike in every respect. With such vegetables like these, in which the characteristic varietal differences are very slight at best, it is very easy to take several varieties out of the same seed-bag. The "Cyclopedia of American Horticulture" says: "There are but few well-defined varieties of this plant used for field culture, and even the garden sorts are not as stable as could be desired. Of the former group, Magdeburg, Brunswick and Schlesische are the principal; of the latter, Witloof (so-called), Red Italian, Broad Leaved, Improved Variegated and Curled Leaved are the best known." To procure seed of these we would probably have to send to Europe.

Chicory for Winter.—A few messes of what is known as "witloof"—that is, the blanched heads of chicory—are easily produced during winter, even by a person possessing little experience or skill as a gardener. I am quite fond of the dish, and when cooked as we usually cook asparagus it can hardly be distinguished by the taste alone from that vegetable. Turning to my "Cyclopedia of American Horticulture" (Bailey) I find the following given as the most rapid way to produce witloof: "Plunge the roots (shortened to five inches) in spent tan-bark or such material, and cover with two feet or more of manure, the space under the greenhouse-bench being used. In about two weeks, heads resembling cos-lettuce may be dug up, boiled like Brussels sprouts or served as salad." I simply plant the roots, trimmed to five or six inches, with about one inch of top, in a box containing rich soil, or better, perhaps, in a keg half filled, and then cover a foot deep with very light and loose material, such as leaf-mold or even freshly gathered dry leaves, giving water as needed. Any place in an ordinary cellar will do for this, or a spot under or on the greenhouse-benches may be utilized. Any variety of chicory may be used for the production of witloof.

Fruit-Growing

By S. B. GREEN

San Jose Scale.—R. S. B., Lynchburg, Va. The twig you inclosed, which is covered with a fine, scurvy, greasy, dust-like covering, is infected with San Jose scale. The best treatment would probably be spraying with a lime, sulphur and salt mixture this winter, after having pruned the trees severely.

Fire-blight.—A. M., Mukwonago, Wis. The twig received is dead, the leaves still hold on, and there are minute pustules in the bark of the twig. I think the injury has been done by what is known as fire-blight. This disease attacks some varieties of apples very severely, and there is no satisfactory remedy for it. Some varieties resist the disease much more than others, and the disease should be avoided by planting such kinds. I think, too, that the disease is most liable where the land is very highly manured and the growth is soft and sappy. The best treatment is to cut off the injured portion as soon as it appears, and burn it.

Plum Stock.—C. C. The branch which you send is, I think, from the Myrobolan plum, which is a seedling sort commonly used as stocks by nurserymen. The common blue plums can be raised from seed, and they will bear fruit without grafting, and it is customary to graft them only that the best varieties may be grown. Practically all the grafted varieties of fruit in use to-day came originally from seed, and in raising blue plums from seed of course there is a possibility of your getting something that would be very desirable. In many parts of the older sections of this country large numbers of seedling blue plums can be found, and they are gathered for preserving.

Grape-berry Moth.—O. G. V., Brazil, Ind. You have what is known as the grape-berry moth. The mature insect is a small moth about half an inch in breadth of wings when expanded. There is no satisfactory remedy known, but it is seldom that injuries from this pest last more than a few years. I am inclined to think that if the berries are sprayed early, and the fruit kept covered with Bordeaux mixture, that it will have a tendency to prevent the moths from laying their eggs on the berries. There were also some berries that seemed to have been injured by black rot. This, too, would also be held in check by thorough spraying with Bordeaux mixture. The grapes sent were so badly mussed that it is out of the question for me to name the variety.

POLLINATION OF KIEFFER PEAR

In a recent report of the Delaware Experiment Station there is given a summary of some experiments in the pollination of Kieffer-pear flowers. The records seem to show that the Kieffer is not more fertile with pollen from a distant orchard of the same kind than with the pollen from the tree on which the cross was made, but that it may be somewhat more fertile in one orchard than in another. A cross-fertilized pear starts into growth with more vigor and develops more rapidly than a self-fertilized one.

The practical deduction from two years' experiments emphasizes the need of planting other varieties near the Kieffer to secure proper pollination of the flowers. Garber and Le Conte are the most satisfactory pollinizers for this purpose.

The record also shows that if six blossoms in one hundred on a Kieffer-pear tree that blooms moderately should mature, the result in crop would be heavy.

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Live Stock and Dairy

WHERE IS THE BELGIAN HARE?

WHAT in the name of humanity has become of that wonderfully interesting little chap, possessed of more virtues to the square inch than all the rest of the animal kingdom combined, the Belgian hare? Less than a year ago he was heralded as the benefactor of the universe. Statesmen knelt at his shrine; legislators considered his needs; associations were organized bearing his name; banquets and food-shows were held in his honor; epicures smacked their lips at the thought of him; invalids ate of him, and were cured; sportsmen delighted to sing his praises; acres of valuable land were set apart for his benefit, and fortunes awaited all who were shrewd enough to start a Belgian-hare farm.

We were told that want or hard times never could overtake us while Belgian hares were in our midst and their comrades were in our orchards. Their flesh was better than turkey; their fur beat seal and otter, and in disposition they were the embodiment of all that was gentle and lovely. To breed and cultivate these hares was the easiest thing out. They would eat uncomplainingly whatever they could get, and two hares were all that a man needed to start with, in order to become independently rich in a very short time. Proof of this was given in an authentic statement printed about two years ago in the "Argonaut," of San Francisco. There it was shown, in estimating the hares' average rate of increase, that one pair of the animals would be represented at the end of a year by twenty-two, and that in five years, if the increase went on proportionately, the descendants would number three million eight hundred and nine thousand three hundred and twenty-two.

What, we ask, has happened to the Belgian-hare family? Where are all its historians and advance-agents? Where are its ten million or more representatives who were reported by the hares' census-taker to be living last year in the United States, and what have they done for posterity? Where are the thousands of tons of canned hare supposed to have been "put up" in Arizona and other states of the Southwest? And what about the multitude of people who, having tasted hare-meat, swore never to forsake it? How are their appetites being appeased? These are momentous questions at the present time, when meat is dear and the landlord is inexorable. Under other conditions people might be feasting to the limit on Belgian hare, instead of having to put up with the commonplace fare of eggs and pancakes.—New York Sun.

PICKING OUT A COW

Some men have a knack of doing this that puts everybody else to shame. They will go into a herd, and as soon as they look the stock over say, "There is a good cow." Acting on this suggestion one finds he has not made a mistake. How the thing was done is as much a mystery to us afterward as now. We only know that this man's judgment has not failed us. But few men are able to make such a choice. Most of us, as the old saying is, "don't know a good thing when we see it" in the line of a cow. But there are certain homely signs which are helpful to the man who sets out to find a cow for his dairy. Some of these are as follows: The cow ought to be of fairly good size, so that she can eat a good ration. She should have a large udder and good-sized teats. Following the milk-vein along to the entrance to the body, in a good cow we would expect to find a hole large enough to take the second finger readily. Some hold that the vein itself should be large and crooked. The cow should have a thin neck and a slender tail. She should be wide between the hind legs. She should have a good, honest look in the eyes. She should stand handling well. When milked she should enjoy the process if the milker be a good hand at it. A couple of rudimentary teats behind the four fully developed ones are a good indication. If added to this we know the owner of the cow to be an honest man, and he tells us that the cow is a good one, if we can agree on the price we may be reasonably sure that we have gotten the worth of our money. This matter of picking out a good cow has proven so unsatisfactory to a great many men that they have come to the conclusion that they can better afford to raise their own cows from calfhood than to trust their judgment to select them from other herds. There is a satisfaction about this that goes a long way. If the heifer should fail to turn out well we cannot blame any one but ourselves; whereas, if we trust the man we buy of, and then our expectations are not realized, we are quite inclined to find fault and never fully trust the neighbor as we did before. It really is more of a job to pick out a good farmer than a good cow. So many men think when they sell a cow that she is the very best of all in the lot, when the fact is they are, for the time being, sadly mistaken. Self-interest is so strong. After we have done our best we may be deceived. If we are, the best way is to get out of it as well as we can, blaming no one, and try to do better next time. E. L. VINCENT.

THE COW-STABLE

There are many cow-stables that are not only a constant menace to the cows' health and their profitable production, but an outrageous contamination of that production; and more, they are an everlasting condemnation of their owners. That careless or ignorant dairymen should allow the most perfect, the most susceptible food product to become contaminated by actual filth and odors of filth is an offense against the rights of society and a menace to the public health. Thanks to the good teachings of the agricultural press, much of the old-time cow-stable untidiness is passing, but there remains, as I have said, enough of it to be a disgrace. This unclean dairyman often hopes for the salvation or purification of his dirty milk from the good offices of the strainer; and while the strainer does all it may by arresting solid particles larger than the meshes of the strainer, the soluble dirt has entered into liquidation with the milk, and the mechanical or chemical process has not yet been invented or discovered that will restore the primary purity of the milk. So the culpable dairyman may not filter his sins by the strainer. If the strainer is of the wire variety the case is worse, as the hard metal divides and subdivides the dirt, making it thus more soluble by a multiplication of exposed surfaces. Oh, yes, by all means use the strainer, but let it be of the many thicknesses of clean, sterilized, new muslin that shall be the best safeguard against the failure of even the most vigilant. But the conservation of the purity of the milk, while of course the most important consideration, the milk being used for human food, is not the only one demanding the clean cow-stable, for secondary in importance only to the clean milk is the health of the cows. The latter may really be a vital part of the former, for when our students of animal life and functions shall some day declare to us beyond all doubt just how the milk is made, it will be strange indeed if it is not again shown that the stream can rise no higher than its source—that the wholesomeness of the milk depends upon the healthfulness of the cow. If the obligation the dairyman owes to the consumers of the products of his dairy does not urge him to the observance of habits and methods of cleanliness, the more personally selfish one of the jeopardy to his animals' health should show him aright, for assuredly good cows are not so plentiful nor so easy to get that they may be neglected by their keepers. These points suggest to the student of animal husbandry that the needed educational work in behalf of the dairyman is beyond the cheap conception of the "balanced-ration" teacher, and becomes the province of the farm papers with their "line upon line and precept upon precept." W. F. McSPARRAN.

Live Stock and Dairy

FEEDING VALUE OF SOME BY-PRODUCTS

Apple Pomace.—Of our progress in agriculture, part consists in making use of much that formerly was wasted. It has been found that apple pomace makes a good succulent food for dairy-cows, and that it can be kept in the silo as easily as corn. The Vermont Experiment Station says: "Four years' experience with apple-pomace silage at this station, using over twenty cows, is a unit in affirming the nearly equivalent, if not, indeed, quite equivalent, feeding values of apple pomace and corn silage. No undesirable results whatsoever have followed its use. Cows continuously and heartily fed have not shrunk, but on the contrary have held up their milk-flows remarkably well. Neither does the milk nor the butter seem injured in any respect." The station recommends that care be used in feeding at the outset, accustoming the cows gradually to the new feed. Fifteen pounds daily is the amount found entirely safe, producing no apparent taint. Supplementing corn silage, or used instead of it in a sparing way to give succulency to the ration as well as to add some feeding value to it, a ton of pomace to each cow during the winter season could be used with profit instead of being permitted to waste.

Sugar-beet Pulp.—The extension of our beet-sugar interests has given us a rather large supply of a comparatively new feeding-stuff. Beets have long been grown as a food for stock, although now somewhat displaced by silage, which can be procured at less cost. The value of the pulp left in the manufacture of sugar has been investigated by several experiment stations, and it is near the truth to say that this refuse has an actual feeding value about half as great as the beets. It is not possible to state a value in dollars and cents, on account of the varying value of other foods and the especial need of any ration for greater succulency. The Colorado station estimates that the pulp is worth two dollars and sixty-one cents a ton in butter-production when butter is worth twenty cents a pound. The feed is easily kept. On this point the station says: "There seems to be no difficulty in regard to keeping beet-pulp. While there is some loss of material when placed in open piles, the fermentation which takes place seems to be beneficial rather than otherwise. Animals eat the sour pulp as well as, and after a little time even better than, they do the pulp fresh from the factory, and the dry beet-chips on the surface of the piles are very palatable to sheep and cattle. Nebraska feeders claim that pulp which has been left in open piles for several years is as good as ever."

Packing-house By-products.—Corn by itself furnishes too much fat and too little muscle-forming material for growing stock. Blood, scraps of lean meat, etc., such as formerly formed the refuse of packing-houses, are rich in this needed protein. These materials have found extensive use in fertilizers, but recently some of it has appeared upon the market in the form of stock-foods. The Iowa Experiment Station has tested several brands of this new feeding-stuff, using them in connection with corn for producing pork, and the results are favorable to them. Naturally these new feeds varied in value, but in every instance they materially increased the net profits possible to exclusive corn-feeding. As was the case with commercial fertilizers, there is room for deception by manufacturers in all states that do not provide for state inspection of commercial feeding-stuffs, but under proper regulations there is no reason why the use of these nitrogenous materials to balance up the corn ration should not increase if there is no possible danger of spread of disease by such means. David.

LIVE STOCK THE BASIS OF GREAT AGRICULTURE

If any one truth has been thoroughly and unalterably established by the enlightened advancements of modern agriculture, it is that live stock must be the permanent basis of all profitable cultivation of the soil. The character of the live stock, too, bears upon the situation, for assuredly no other than improved live stock will be found worthy to serve as a basis for agriculture. Live stock bears a close relation to progressive agriculture.

Since man has first turned his attention to this branch of improved agriculture—for it can be properly so called, since it springs from the soil—he has produced such animals as he desired to possess. The thoroughbred horse, that marvel of the animal world, with his satin coat, superb courage, limitless strength and endurance, swift movement and docile temper, is essentially the result of man's intelligent and enlightened system of cross-breeding. This magnificent animal is the realization of loving enthusiasm, inspired patience and an intellectual ideal. He is as much a child of man's brain as is a great oratorio, an immortal poem or a perfect picture. Who can set limits to the perfection of form and function yet to be attained by the minds devoted to the science of heredity and the art of environment? With improved live stock as a basis agriculture will be progressive.

The keeping of live stock demands a rotation of crops. An intelligent rotation has several elements of profit unknown to a system of farming without such rotation. They are minimum expense in equipment; minimum of labor employed; maximum of value in the finished product; minimum of fertility sold in the marketed products; stability of output; a rational equilibrium. All these contribute to profit, and profit with a more enduring character than is represented by the receipts from a single transaction. The rational equilibrium is that of having business the year round. The time has gone by, life is regarded as too short, competition is too stern and constant, to permit a business being followed in which men can work only half time and yet keep abreast of the times. On the farm where live stock is made a feature of the business of agriculture there is actual tillage for the summer and care of live stock in the winter.

Fashions may come and fashions may go, but the demand for the fine mutton-chop, the juicy steak, the toothsome ham, rich milk, yellow, sweet butter and good cream does not, and will not, diminish. The pleasure in a good driver, a high-stepper for a saddler, the demand for the splendid draft-horse, endure. The demand for animal fiber grows, and every animal product is in greater favor to-day than ever before.

Aside from the indirect but important value of live stock in relation to soil-fertility there remain the greater considerations of direct profit to be realized from the sale of the stock and the utilization of substances that would otherwise be wasted. It is not sensible, nor is it necessary, to waste anything on the farm that has cost labor or fertility. The greatest food crop grown in the United States is corn. It is the giant crop. When we have live stock the stalk and the blade can be profitably used. Forty per cent of the nutritive value of the entire crop is contained in the stalk and blade. It has cost fertility to grow the stalk and blade, and it is known that fertility is not restored by "plowing under"—the old, wasteful and shabby method of farming—for the reason that such substances are not fertilizers. Corn fodder is as valuable, pound for pound, for horses, cattle and sheep as the best mixed clover and timothy hay. The fodder must be chaffed, or shredded into fine bits, which can be done by machinery very cheaply. Every portion of it is eaten by the stock, and no part is wasted. If we grow our grain and our coarse forage on the same acre, may we not expect far more profit from the acre than if we utilize but sixty per cent of its product, which represents the grain, and waste the remaining forty per cent, the fodder?

C. M. Ginther.

SOME SILAGE NOTES

For cows, heifers and young stock generally there is no single feed produced on our farms equal to corn silage. It is wholesome, succulent, palatable and cheap. It is easily digested, because the chemical processes it undergoes in the silo changes part of the starch of the corn-plant into sugar as it grows, thus relieving the economy of the cow of part of that operation. It has less indigestible matter than any feed the dairyman may use. Attesting to its palatability, the cows will eat it every day in the year, with a double feed on Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Now, moldy silage is not the desirable feed I have been enlarging upon. Neither are moldy hay, bran or corn good and proper feeds for a generous cow. That the cow will eat these moldy feeds argues nothing in their favor or to the justification of the man who imposes them upon her. Left to her own choice, a well and properly fed cow will not partake of the unsound food if she can get that which is sound. It is the common practice of unwise and unwisely economical feeders, when they find a little spoiled silage, to mix it with the sound, thus fooling the cow into eating it. There may be some nutritious elements remaining in dry, moldy silage which the animal can use, and it is not at all probable that an occasional particle of moldy feed is going to seriously affect the well-constitutioned animal; but so great is the danger from spores of a most injurious and even fatal character from the continued use of such feed, that assuredly no prudent farmer would continue to use it after knowing the danger, which far overbalances any saving effected by the use of such spoiled material, even supposing it actually retains some feeding value. This is a warning I always sound to the inexperienced user of silage. The moldy silage is a loss, and should be so regarded. A careful investigation of the cause or causes that produced the loss should be made, and a repetition of it avoided if possible. The first loss is always the best, and it is a backsliding economy that tries to save spoiled feed by killing a cow or undermining the health and usefulness of a young animal. Even where there is no evidence of mold in the silo, unless the feeder is really economical and tidy, and keeps his feeding-floor and mangers entirely free from left-overs or accumulations, the dangerous spores may be as easily and as injuriously propagated thus as in a bad corner of the silo. The place for spoiled feed is on the manure-pile, or rather on the manure-spreader. W. F. McSparran.

TEST FOR OLEOMARGARINE

"It seems curious to me that so few people are able to tell the difference between butter and oleomargarine," said an old butter-tester a few days ago. "There is a very simple and easy method of distinguishing them. The test of which I speak will serve when a good chemist would fail after he has made a chemical analysis, for good oleomargarine has very nearly the same components butter has, even under chemical analysis. There is, you know, good and bad oleomargarine, as well as different qualities of butter. Doubtless you have noticed after you have eaten a piece of very fat meat, or gravy made from fat meat, that there remains in your mouth a greasy taste. It may not be strong, but it is distinct. This is also true of cheap ice-cream in which lard is used. Well, this same taste remains in your mouth after you have eaten oleomargarine. When an expert dealer considers the purchase of a lot of butter, he has one of the packages opened. From this he takes a sample about as big as one of the patties that are served at restaurants. Placing this in his mouth, he mashes it around, and lets it grow soft from the heat of his mouth, until it is what you might call 'mushy.' He then ejects it. If the substance is oleomargarine, a lardy taste will remain. There will be a little grease sticking to the membranes of his mouth, no matter how finely the imitation may be made. If it is pure butter, there will be no taste or grease. That is a test which any housekeeper can make at her grocer's. After she has tried it several times the grocer will learn to offer her nothing but pure butter."—Twentieth-Century Farmer.

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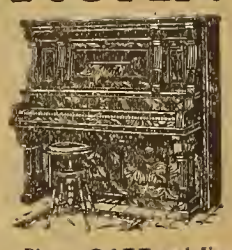

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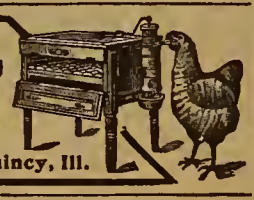

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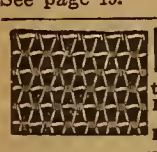

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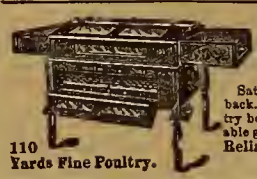

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Poultry-Raising

By P. H. JACOBS

SELECTION OF LAYERS

THE fall of the year is a period when the farmer should endeavor to determine whether he will keep all or a portion of his flock. If he is not careful he will retain and feed a lot of fowls through the winter, and get no eggs before spring. In such a case there is no profit. Only the hens that have molted before October 15th and the matured pullets are worthy of being kept. Do not keep a single male that is hatched on the farm, as that is a source of degeneracy.

INCREASING THE WARMTH

It will cost but little to paper the outer walls of a poultry-house with waterproof paper. It is better to place the paper on the outside, as it then protects the boards from becoming wet. One plan, however, is to strip the boards on the outside and paper the house on the inside. This can be done with any ordinary paper—wrapping-paper being excellent—two thicknesses being applied, and it can be removed in summer, as it will then afford a harboring-place for lice. The better plan is to use waterproof paper, which if painted will last for years.

WARMTH IN WINTER

Warmth is essential for promoting laying. A severe frost will sometimes suddenly stop the laying of even the most prolific hens. It is the winter management of fowls that decides the question of profit or loss, for hens will be sure to pay in the summer, even if only fairly attended to. It is believed by many that each hen can produce only a certain number of eggs. If such is the case it is very advantageous to obtain a portion of them in winter, when they are generally scarce and can be eaten while fresh, instead of having the whole number produced in the summer, when so many are spoiled from too long keeping in consequence of more being produced than are required for use at that time.

THE PROFITS AND COST

It is frequently claimed that eggs pay better in winter than in summer, as prices are then higher, but the question to be considered is not "eggs," but "fowls." Do fowls (not eggs) pay better in winter than in summer? If each hen lays only one egg a week the cost of the egg may be more than its price. Where the best management is given, and the hens lay in winter, the profit in the cold season is large, but there is more labor required in winter and more food to buy. The value of the chicks hatched by hens adds to the profits, but hens cannot raise chicks in winter unless given more care than many are willing to bestow. The largest profits are secured in summer, because, while the prices may be lower, there is nearly always something to sell.

COMPARISON OF LAYERS

That the hens are given the preference over other fowls as layers is shown by a glance at every farm-yard in which the hen will be seen and the duck absent. One reason favorable to the hen is that she lays at all seasons of the year, which cannot be said of the duck; but in the duck's favor it may be said that when she begins to lay she lays nearly every day while at it, and from February to September will lay as many eggs as some hens will during the whole year. In fact, some ducks will lay one hundred eggs during four months. The duck will give better results with her eggs and young than will the hen. Duck eggs are nearly always fertile, and it is not unusual to get one hundred young ones from one hundred eggs, while a little extra care will bring ninety-five of them to a marketable age.

HENS EATING EGGS

Hens often learn to eat their eggs from eating the egg-shells that are given to them with their food. They find it easy to crush the shells that are thus thrown in their way, and probably the taste of a portion of the contents left in the fresh shells is not the least incentive to break other shells in the nest. If you have plenty of oyster or clam shells or ground bone, the amount of lime in the egg-shells is scarcely worth saving for your fowls, and the shells should be thrown in the fire to be pulverized and thrown out with the ashes. However, if you desire to save them, pound them fine and mix in their food, thus avoiding all semblance of egg-eating. Perhaps all the fowls in the flock could never learn this bad trick independently, but there are always a few who easily learn, and they will teach the others in a short time.

EGG-PRODUCING FOODS

The best food for making hens lay is lean meat. When the supply of eggs fails, stop all other foods and feed lean meat or liver (any cheap meat will answer), and it will be found superior to anything that can be used. Green bone that contains a large proportion of lean meat is even better, provided the fat portions are removed from the bone. It will be found cheaper than grain because it will make eggs. One reason why hens sometimes fail to lay when they have plenty of grain is that they require a change, and meat contains the material for supplying the albumen of the eggs, being, therefore, a substance that the hens must have or they cannot perform service. If the hens are fat, give one ounce of lean meat each day, allowing no other food for a week or two. Wheat usually costs about a cent a pound, and during some years corn in certain sections is nearly as high. Now, the cost of the foods is not in the kind, but in the results. If meat will make the hens lay two eggs in winter where the grain promotes the production of only one, then the meat is cheap and the grain dear, because the increase derived by the use of the meat reduces its cost really to nothing. If a large amount of grain is used it will be found that by using less of grain and more of meat a combination of the two foods in winter will be better than the use of either alone; but in summer lean meat and cut bone is the best ration that can be given, leaving the grain out entirely. No food is costly if it accomplishes the object sought, but any kind is expensive if it does not induce the hens to lay.

BROWN AND LIGHT EGGS.—L. S. D., Independence, Mo., asks "if dark eggs are richer in contents than eggs with light shells." Tests made at experiment stations show that the color of the shell or yolk does not in any manner indicate the quality of an egg.

BUYING FOWLS AND EGGS.—R. G. E., Homewood, Pa., desires to be informed as to "the best periods of the year to buy fowls and eggs, or either." As fowls are cheaper in the fall of the year, buyers take advantage thereof, buying eggs in the spring if no fowls are purchased.

PROSPECTIVE LAYERS—CUT BONES.—S. R., Miamisburg, Ohio, requests information as to "how soon a chicken will lay (under favorable conditions) after her egg-sack contains embryo eggs the size of buckshot.——Are bones from the table equal to green bones for poultry?" As individual fowls differ greatly, and each breed possesses its peculiar characteristics, some maturing earlier than others, it would be difficult to estimate when the embryo eggs would be fully developed, as usually they vary in size and stages of growth.——Bones from the table are nearly equal to fresh-cut green bone, losing only a portion of their nitrogen during cooking.

NEW CURE FOR
KIDNEYS and BLADDER
Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Gravel, Pain in the Back, Dropsy, Diabetes, etc.
A LARGE TRIAL CASE FREE
For these diseases a Positive Specific Cure is found in a new botanical discovery, the wonderful Kava Kava Shrub, called by botanists the *piper methysticum*, from the Ganges River, East India. It has the extraordinary record of 1,200 hospital cures in 30 days. It acts directly on the Kidneys, and cures by draining out of the Blood the poisonous Uric Acid, Lithates, etc., which cause disease.
James Thomas, Esq., of the Board of Review Bureau of Pensions, Washington, D. C., was cured after many physicians had failed and he had given up all hope of recovery. Nathaniel Anderson, Esq., of Greenwood, S. C., writes: "Was a sufferer of Kidney and Bladder troubles, which caused two hemorrhages of the Kidneys; had to urinate every few minutes; physicians told me my case was incurable, but was completely cured by Alkavis." Alvin D. Lane, Auburn, Me., writes: "Was cured of Rheumatism, which was so severe as to cause him to use crutches." Many ladies, including Miss Viola Dearing, Petersburg, Ind., Mrs. E. R. Dinsmore, South Deerfield, Mass., also testify as to its wonderful curative powers in Kidney diseases and other disorders peculiar to women.
That you may judge of the value of this Great Discovery for yourself, we will send you one Large Case by mail Free. It is a Sure Specific and cannot fail. Address The Church Kidney Cure Company, No. 429 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

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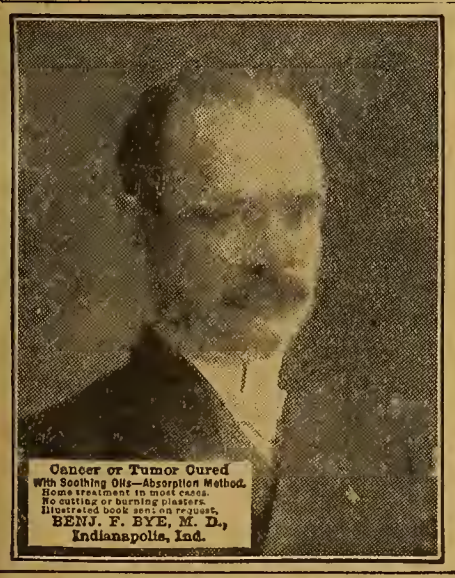
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Our premium watch has a GOLD laid case, handsome dial, dust proof, adjusted to position, patent escapement, expansion balance, quick train, and is a highly finished and remarkable watch. We guarantee it, and with proper care it should wear and give satisfaction for 20 years. The movement is an American make, and you can rely upon it that when you own one of these truly handsome watches you will always have the correct time in your possession. **Do you want a Watch of this character? We give It Free** as a premium to anyone for selling 20 cases of our everlasting Perfumery at 5c. each. Simply send your name and address and we will send you the Perfumery postpaid. When sold send us the One Dollar, and we will forward you the handsome watch. We trust you and will take back all you cannot sell. We purpose to give away these watches simply to advertise our business. Address. W. S. SIMPSON, NEW YORK CITY.

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Opium, Laudanum, Cocaine and Liquor habits permanently and painlessly cured at home. No detention from business. Action immediate. Leaves patient in natural, healthy condition without desire for drugs. Write for particulars. DR. LONG CO., ATLANTA, GA.
Cure Guaranteed for $10.

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The Grange

By MRS. MARY E. LEE

THE OBSERVATORY

Don't attempt to keep your grange alive on scorched platitudes. They are dyspepsia-breeders.

You hold your grange, your family, your neighbors, yourself, in small esteem if you go to grange-meetings in soiled, every-day clothes. Dress up, and live up to your clothes.

More inquiries concerning grange-organization have come to us in the last month than in any three preceding ones. The necessity and the advantage of organization can no longer be ignored.

Has your grange that "tired feeling?" Too bad. It will prove fatal if not arrested. Try a course of lectures. The speakers will bring in new thought, new modes of expression. If they are good ones, and handle interesting themes skilfully, they will make fertile many otherwise dull hours.

'Tis not the individual or class who wait for things to take a turn who achieve honor and success in life. They who work unremittingly for justice in their own behalf are the world's true benefactors. The farmer who seeks just and impartial laws, and the wise enforcement of the same, is as truly a hero as he who fights on bloody fields his nation's battles.

If the women of town and country would coöperate they could soon rid themselves of the vexing and disgusting sights and sounds that meet them in many of our little country stores. The merchant who has not enough self-respect or respect for womanhood to banish from room and steps a hooting, vulgar crew is not worthy the patronage of the women.

There are more opportunities for earning a living than there are people to avail themselves of them. For years the grumblers of Beardstown complained there were no chances for young people to earn a living, yet energetic business men from a neighboring city established on a paying basis a laundry, bakery, dressmaking and tailoring shops. There's work for all who will work.

One reason given by the young for leaving the farm is that town people can dress better. The notion is not so inconsequential as you deem. You can't laugh or argue it away. It is Nature's law. You were once dominated by the same idea. Why did you let yourself down from it and the other generous resolves and noble impulses that accompanied it? Rather than laugh at the vanity of youth, pity your own decrepitude. You have good clothes. Why don't you assume an outward grace, and wear them?

LO, THE POOR FARMER!

It is a matter of profound satisfaction to the student of the intellectual development of our time, particularly if he be a farmer, that those principles which the founders of the grange, nearly forty years ago, declared as axiomatic are being exploited in our magazines and newspapers to-day, to the end that public sentiment may be aroused and educated. Yet there are those, yea, even among the farmers themselves, who scornfully speak of the ignorance and backwardness of the farmer. Never mind. Let the world's tongue wag as it will. The grange will go on formulating principles, and the farmer will imbibe them. Some time he will awaken to the fact that did he give a little more attention to his English, his manners, his dress, he, too, could prophesy and be numbered among the prophets.

WOMAN AND THE GRANGE

The grange was the first fraternal organization to accord to woman equal privileges with man. She is eligible to any office, and there are three which she alone can fill. Moreover, the grange has from its inception resolutely maintained that women should be accorded the right of suffrage. When women's clubs were yet in their infancy the women of the farms were performing in the grange all the duties and functions which devolve on the modern club-woman. She was reading papers, holding her own in debate, entering zealously into parliamentary contests, and all the while keeping up the social life of the order. To-day woman's life on the farm is fuller and freer because of the grange. It has taught her composure, self-control, confidence in her own ideas, ease in conversation. She is learning the lesson, so hard for women with all their inherited tendencies to learn, of her place in the economy of Nature. And the learning thereof has made her a nobler being, fitter for the duties of life, wherever and whatever they may be. The grange has bridged the chasm between town and country women, till they clasp hands in whatever work there is to be done. And because of the friendship and the light it brings, it has made the home-life of the farm so free, so broad, so hopeful, that the young people desire only to be gone from it long enough to secure an education that will fit them for entering upon the duties of the home on the farm. It is a fitting tribute to the influence of the grange on woman's, therefore the entire home, life that in those communities where there is the best grange-development there are found more young people happy and prosperous.

THE OFFICE SEEKING THE MAN

It is a grange principle that the office should seek the man, not the man the office. "Few good men would get office in that case!" exclaims Mr. Grim. It might be in order to ask Mr. Grim what he is doing to thrust the office on a good man. What envy, jealousy, private ambitions, has he suppressed? What movement has he set on foot among his neighbors, looking toward the nomination of Mr. Good? What encouraging word has he spoken to Mr. Good himself? Has he taken any particular pains to speak of Mr. Good's integrity and public spirit? Has he shown up his good qualities as a neighbor, a business man and a citizen? Has he been active in creating a sentiment in his favor? Has he not, on the contrary, if Mr. Good's name has been proposed, "damned him with faint praise," grudgingly acknowledged his honorable record, while indicating by sundry dark hints and sidelong glances that he could tell "things" if he only would? Has not the spirit of envious jealousy rankled within him that it was Good's, not Grim's, name that was mentioned? Isn't it Grim's selfish ambition, his animosity, his private dislike, that renders it an unusual thing for the office to seek the man? Isn't it the littleness of Grim's mind that furnishes such rich plucking for professional politicians? And isn't it the same mean spirit that enables unscrupulous, corrupt men to get control of the party machinery? Shall we not add a corollary to the principle that the office shall seek the man, that "the office shall be thrust upon the man by his neighbors?" Verily the evils of which we complain, the burdens we bear, the disadvantages under which we labor, are largely of our own creation, and exist by our narrow, selfish sufferance. Only by losing self can self be found.

THE VALUE OF CHARCOAL
Few People Know How Useful It is in Preserving Health and Beauty
Nearly everybody knows that charcoal is the safest and most efficient disinfectant and purifier in nature, but few realize its value when taken into the human system for the same cleansing purpose.
Charcoal is a remedy that the more you take of it the better; it is not a drug at all, but simply absorbs the gases and impurities always present in the stomach and intestines, and carries them out of the system.
Charcoal sweetens the breath after smoking, drinking, or after eating onions and other odorous vegetables.
Charcoal effectually clears and improves the complexion, it whitens the teeth, and further acts as a natural and eminently safe cathartic.
It absorbs the injurious gases which collect in the stomach and bowels; it disinfects the mouth and throat from the poison of catarrh.
All druggists sell charcoal in one form or another, but probably the best charcoal and the most for the money is in Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges; they are composed of the finest powdered Willow charcoal and other harmless antiseptics in tablet form, or rather in the form of large, pleasant-tasting lozenges, the charcoal being mixed with honey.
The daily use of these lozenges will soon tell in a much-improved condition of the general health, better complexion, sweeter breath and purer blood; and the beauty of it is that no possible harm can result from their continued use, but, on the contrary, great benefit.
A Buffalo physician, in speaking of the benefits of charcoal, says, "I advise Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges to all patients suffering from gas in stomach and bowels, and to clear the complexion and purify the breath, mouth and throat; I also believe the liver is greatly benefited by the daily use of them; they cost but twenty-five cents a box at drug-stores, and although in some sense a patent preparation, yet I believe I get more and better charcoal in Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges than in any of the ordinary charcoal tablets."

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Why not make your home such a Christmas Present?
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The WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION pays its solicitors the greatest cash commission that is paid by any first-class illustrated magazine in the world. It calls for agents in every city, town and village not already occupied for it. They may give part time or all time, and may act locally or travel, as preferred. References required, but no capital, neither any special experience.
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For Singers and Speakers

The New Remedy For Catarrh is Very Valuable

A Grand Rapids gentleman who represents a prominent manufacturing concern, and travels through central and southern Michigan, relates the following regarding the new catarrh cure. He says:

"After suffering from catarrh of the head, throat and stomach for several years, I heard of Stuart's Catarrh Tablets quite accidentally, and like everything else I immediately bought a package, and was decidedly surprised at the immediate relief it afforded me, and still more to find a complete cure after several weeks' use.

"I have a little son who sings in a boys' choir in one of our prominent churches, and he is greatly troubled with hoarseness and throat weakness, and on my return home from a trip I gave him a few of the tablets one Sunday morning when he had complained of hoarseness. He was delighted with their effect, removing all huskiness in a few minutes, and making the voice clear and strong.

"As the tablets are very pleasant to the taste, I had no difficulty in persuading him to use them regularly.

"Our family physician told us they were an antiseptic preparation of undoubted merit, and that he himself had no hesitation in using and recommending Stuart's Catarrh Tablets for any form of catarrh.

"I have since met many public speakers and professional singers who used them constantly. A prominent Detroit lawyer told me that Stuart's Catarrh Tablets kept his throat in fine shape during the most trying weather, and that he had long since discarded the use of cheap lozenges and troches on the advice of his physician that they contained so much tolu, potash and opium as to render their use a danger to health."

Stuart's Catarrh Tablets are large, pleasant-tasting lozenges, composed of catarrhal antiseptics, like Red Gum, Blood Root, etc., and sold by druggists everywhere at 50 cents for full treatment.

They act upon the blood and mucous membrane, and their composition and remarkable success has won the approval of physicians, as well as thousands of sufferers from nasal catarrh, throat troubles and catarrh of stomach.

A little book on treatment of catarrh mailed free by addressing F. A. Stuart Co., Marshall, Michigan.

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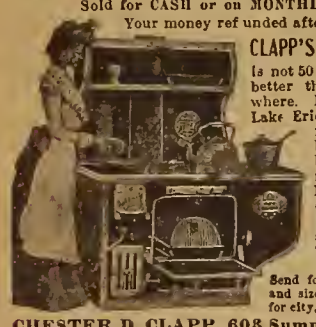

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Around the Fireside

WHAT WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY IS

In order to follow intelligently the advance of wireless telegraphy from the beginning, some rough idea must be had of the modern physicist's view regarding the nature of electrical phenomena. To this end all space must be regarded as permeated by a something, termed the luminiferous ether. Not only does this ether permeate the spaces between the heavenly bodies and our atmosphere (which conception offers little difficulty to the lay mind), but it also permeates all solids. Further, its nature is such that the movement even of solids is not in the least restrained by such permeation, the closest analogy being that of a sieve, representing the solid, being moved about in water, representing the ether.

The ether is the seat not only of all electrical phenomena, but also of all the phenomena of light and heat. All of these, apparently so distinct, are but the result of vibrations, or waves, on the ether, the apparent differences being due only to differences in the length of the waves and the rapidity with which they occur, just as one musical note differs from another in the same particulars, only that the sound-waves are air-waves and not ether-waves.

Now, with the usual telegraphic methods, the current, as it is termed, is sent or directed through space by means of a metallic conductor. Actually nothing passes through the wire, as is implied by the use of the word "current." What actually takes place is the transmission of energy along the path of the wire by means of vibrations in the neighboring ether. That is, the metal of the wire acts merely as a guide for the ether-waves to the destination desired.

In wireless telegraphy ether-vibrations are also set up at the transmitting-station, but these, having no conducting guide, radiate in all directions through space, and a small percentage of them arrives at the receiving-station, and by means of suitable apparatus are made appreciable by the senses, or recorded.—The Great Round World.

ROBERT C. CLOWRY'S BEGINNING

The December "Success" contains an interesting interview with Robert C. Clowry, president of the Western Union Telegraph Company, in which he tells of the struggle of his early life. Of his first position, Mr. Clowry said:

"I had been living with my mother on a farm in Will County, not far from Joliet, and having reached the age of fifteen I thought it time to start out in the world for myself. Ever since I first heard of the telegraph I was fascinated with its workings, and at that time my chief ambition was to be able to send a message over the wires.

"'What kind of work do you want to do?' the operator asked me.

"I replied that I didn't suppose I was capable of doing anything but carry messages.

"'Well,' he said, 'we don't pay boys anything the first six months; but if you want to work you will have a chance to learn the business. When you're in the office you can easily pick up the knack of operating the keys, and eventually you'll get an office of your own.'

"I hadn't expected to earn any money at first, so I told him I was ready to begin work at once. That was the beginning of my experience in the telegraph business."

"But if you received no money for six months, how did you live in Joliet during that time?" was asked Colonel Clowry.

"I was able to earn money by doing various odd jobs around town, and of course my expenses were very low. For a while I used to get my own meals. I had learned to do plain cooking at home, and it was no hardship for me to fry an egg or broil a piece of steak. Joliet was a very small town in 1852, and I had never been accustomed to luxurious living at home. I had to work long hours at the office. I was the only messenger, and had all the work to do, so I hardly had time to be homesick. After my life on the farm, Joliet was a regular metropolis in my eyes, and I found much to interest me. Of course, I was discouraged at times. I was very young to be away from home and dependent on my own resources, and it was only natural that I should occasionally get the blues. But for the most part I was wrapped up in my work and occupied with ambitious plans for the future."

"Were you able to learn telegraphy in a short time?"

"Yes; it seemed to come natural to me. I always liked mechanics, and didn't rest until I knew the function of every key and lever connected with the instruments in the office. Within two months I was able to send and receive a message, and in four months I was quite as expert as the regular operator. He was surprised at the readiness with which I learned, and remarked one day that I wouldn't remain a messenger long. This encouraged me, of course, but I had not the least idea how soon I should be given an office of my own."

IMAGINARY ILLS

It is probably within bounds to say that a large proportion, if not fully one half, of the troubles which afflict mankind are wholly imaginary, or at least greatly exaggerated. A considerable part of every physician's practice consists in the treatment of minor ailments and of diseases which exist only in his patients' imagination.

If this were all, and the only result of too much introspection and notice of supposed symptoms were to increase the physician's income, there would not be so much to be said against it. But, unfortunately, imaginary diseases cause a great deal of suffering—as much as, if not more than, the real troubles of which they are the counterfeits.

There are few more wretched objects than the confirmed hypochondriac, whose days and nights are spent in counting his pulse, looking at his tongue, noticing every flutter in his chest or little shooting pain in his head, and reading medical books and the circulars of quacks.

Such a man is perhaps more to be pitied than the victim of fatal disease; for while he may live longer, his life is so barren of happiness as to be scarcely worth the living.

There is almost no disease which one who makes a constant study of every little unusual sensation cannot imagine himself to have, but heart-disease is perhaps the one oftenest simulated. It is so easy to count the pulse and to imagine queer sensations in the chest, and the rhythm of the heart-beats changes under such slight provocation, especially if there is a little indigestion, that nothing is simpler than to imagine one's self the subject of some serious disease of this organ.

The habit is thus formed of watching one's symptoms; and once formed, it is most difficult to overcome.

The best protection against the acquiring of such a habit is education in childhood. Parents should never appear solicitous, nor take notice of every little ache or pain with which a child runs to its mother. A sharp stitch in the side does not always mean pneumonia, nor a stomach-ache appendicitis, and children should be taught to disregard little discomforts. If a child is given a very light supper and put to bed when it complains, it will soon learn not to exaggerate small ills.

Real sickness usually makes its presence known by unmistakable signs, and there is slight danger that a manly disregard of minor ailments, and a refusal to be frightened by them, will lead to the neglect of any really serious trouble. —Youth's Companion.

PORK-PACKER'S WISDOM

Everybody will be talking about the "Letters of a Self-made Merchant to His Son" before long. This is a book full of peculiarly American wit and humor, with an undercurrent at least of practical wisdom. John Graham is a big man in Chicago, and head of the house of Graham & Co., pork-packers. He is familiarly known as "Old Gorgon Graham," while his son, Pierrepont, to whom the letters are addressed, is humorously called "Piggy," by his intimates. The following selections from "Old Gorgon's" letters sufficiently explain themselves:

"Run a conversation like a Sunday-school excursion, with stops to pick flowers; but in the office your sentences should be the shortest distance possible between periods.

"Our bright young men have discovered how to make a pretty good article of potted chicken, and they don't need any help from hens, either; and you can smell the clover in our butterine if you've developed the poetic side of your nose, but none of the boys have been able to discover anything that will pass as a substitute for work, even in a boarding-house, though I'll give some of them credit for having tried pretty hard.

"Whenever any one offers to let you in on the ground floor it's a pretty safe rule to take the elevator to the roof-garden.

"Of course, a packer who understands something about the versatility of cotton-seed oil need never turn down orders for lard because the run of hogs is light, and a father who understands human nature can turn out an imitation parson from a boy whom the Lord intended to go on the board of trade. But on general principles it's best to give your cotton-seed oil a Latin name, and to market it on its merits, and to let your boy follow his bent, even if it leads him into the wheat pit.

"Marriages may be made in heaven, but most engagements are made in the back parlor, with the gas so low that a fellow doesn't really get a square look at what he's taking.

"A man can't pick his own mother, but he can pick his son's mother, and when he chooses a father-in-law who plays the bucket-shops he needn't be surprised if his own son plays the races.

"While you are at it there's nothing like picking out a good-looking wife, because even the handsomest woman looks homely sometimes, and so you get a little variety; but a homely one can only look worse than usual. Beauty is only skin-deep, but that's deep enough to satisfy any reasonable man.

"You can trust a woman's taste on everything except men; and it's mighty lucky that she slips up there, or we'd pretty nigh all be bachelors.

"Repartee makes reading lively, but business dull.

"Sausage is the one subject of all others that a fellow in the packing business ought to treat solemnly.

"You'll meet a good many people on the road that you won't like, but the house needs their business.

"What you know is a club for yourself, and what you don't know is a meat-ax for the other fellow.

"He was a powerful hand for a joke, and had one of those porous heads and movable scalps which go with a sense of humor in a small village.

"The only animal which the Bible calls patient is an ass, and that's both good doctrine and good natural history.

"Of course, clothes don't make the man, but they make all of him except his hands and face during business hours, and that's a pretty considerable area of the human animal.

"The wheat pit is only thirty feet across, but it reaches clear down to hell. And trading on margin means trading on the ragged edge of nothing.

"I remember reading once that some fellows use language to conceal thought; but it's been my experience that a good many more use it instead of thought."—New York Times.

The Housewife

THE TREE OF LIFE

Plant patience in the garden of thy soul!
The roots are bitter, but the fruits are sweet;
And when, at last, it stands a tree complete,
Beneath its tender shade the burning heat
And burden of the day shall lose control—
Plant patience in the garden of thy soul!
—Henry Austin, in Harper's Weekly.

CLEAN TALK

THREE very small boys were playing on the sidewalk. As I came within hearing-distance there was a laugh, then one of the boys said, in a tone of rebuke, and glancing up at me, "That isn't very nice talk for a lady to hear."

The incident set me thinking. These little boys, hardly more than babies, had begun to say things that they would not say in the presence of a lady.

There are a number of reasons for the prevalence of indecent talk and profanity among children. Parents are careless and do not take a decided stand against the practice, or they are not particular enough about their children's associates, and allow them to run at large too much, or they are not clean-minded themselves.

Many parents would be shocked and horrified if they knew how their children talk when out of their hearing. Boys are probably the worst offenders, but we all know that among children of a larger growth there are vulgar women as well as vulgar men.

It is probably possible to so talk and reason with a boy as to show him that it is more strong-minded and manly never to say anything he would not be willing his mother and sister should hear than to descend to vulgarity.

It is a poor rule that will not work both ways, and if a boy is the better for being brought up this way, a girl should be trained never to say anything she would not be willing her father and brother should know she said.

SUSAN BROWN ROBBINS.

SOMETHING TO LEARN EVERYWHERE

Although the price of meals at Alt-Nuremberg, the German village of the Pan-American, may have seemed a little high-priced, yet the thrifty housekeeper found each time that it was a good investment, for there were nice things to be learned there in combinations of food materials, which were delicious. The readers of the FARM AND FIRESIDE may not care for the German names of the various preparations, but they can easily prepare several of the dishes. The following one, made of carrots and peas, was fit "to set before a king:"

The carrots are pared, cut in dice-shape, and perfectly boiled. The pieces should be small and thin. In summer fresh peas are used, but later canned peas make a fine dish for winter. Before the carrots are quite done (if fresh peas are used) the peas must be put in the kettle with the carrots, and boiled; if canned peas are used, the carrots should be well cooked before the peas are added. The savoriness of the dish is to have the carrots cooked to perfection. One can of peas with the carrots will answer for two dinners for any ordinary-sized family. After putting the peas and carrots together, season with salt, pepper, butter and milk, or better still, with cream.

People who have been sure they would never like carrots will like this dish. Besides, carrots are among the healthy vegetables that learned hygienists say we ought to eat.

MARY JOSLYN SMITH.

THE NON-WORK-BASKET IDEA

"I am so sorry, Mrs. Sherman, that I cannot go out with you this evening. If only my mending was done I could go, but you see this is Saturday night, and I cannot put the mending off any longer. It worries me all the week. Do you mind telling me how it is that you always have yours done, and never seem to make hard work of it?"

"Well," said Mrs. Sherman, with a smile, "you see I go on the non-work-basket plan. You do not know what I mean, do you? When I first began to keep house I thought nothing looked so domestic as to see a work-basket piled full of clothing to be patched or darned. I used to leave it all until Saturday night, and many a time did I lose some pleasure that I might have enjoyed if my mending had not interfered.

"Now, on Wednesday morning, unless of course something has prevented the washing being done on Monday and the ironing on Tuesday, when I am ready to put away the clothes, I plan to have about two hours to spend on them, and often one hour will do all that is necessary. Then I clear my kitchen table, open it out wide, and with needles, pins, buttons and thread (both white and colored) at hand, I mend each article as I take it from the bars, and then lay it in the pile to which it belongs.

"In most cases only a few stitches or buttons are necessary, and the work is soon done. Patches are basted on, then all sewed on by machine at one time. Of course, a garment that will require two or three hours' work to put it in good condition can be laid by itself until the necessary amount of time can be given it, but by following this plan my clothes are all put away at the same time, so saving steps and precious time. I am also spared all dread of the mending-basket, and have my Saturday evening free, besides always being 'caught up' with my mending." I. B. H.

SOFA-PILLOWS

As the interest in sofa-pillows will not soon wane, we give two very pretty patterns in different schemes of work. The one is black appliquéd on yellow, with a heavy couching around the entire pattern in heavy white silk tied down with a rich shade of green, this color also being used for the stem outlines. The back should be black satin, with a black-and-yellow cord finishing the edge.

The other pillow is in white linen chain-stitch upon blue linen. It is a very easily completed pillow, as the stitch needs only care to keep it even. The pineapples are in white crossing-threads, with the fan-stitch in the middles of white and yellow in alternated sections. Finish around the outside with a white cord sewed in loops along the edge and at the corners. The under side can be of the plain blue linen.

Another pillow formed of squares of rick-rack braid, with the two braids cat-stitched together and silk threads taken from one side to the other to fill the squares, is a new idea. This is laid over a lining of mercerized cotton, and the same color can be used for the ruffle and back.

Cover a round pillow with a pretty color of mercerized cotton, and upon this sew any pretty design made of corset-laces. These can be as varied as you care to make them.

If a pillow is designed for constant use, strips of linens or cottons can be woven in a lattice pattern and fastened with a cross-stitch in heavy linen thread at each corner. These could be laundered when soiled, which makes them quite serviceable.

One can scarcely have too many pillows these days upon the couch or in the cozy-corner, as the more you have, the more luxurious they will be. It is folly, though, where there are many children, to have other than washable fabrics.

W. D. M.

LEMONADE

Many people are unacquainted with the following method of making a drink so much enjoyed by all:

For a quart pitcherful take five lemons, cut off each end in a thick slice, then cut in half and squeeze the juice from them into a bowl, straining the seeds from it. Fill your serving-pitcher nearly full of good cold water, into which put an even teacupful of sugar. When the sugar has dissolved entirely in the water add the lemon-juice, and stir well. Cut from the ends of the lemons a slice, shape in the form of stars with a pair of scissors, and put one in each glass as an ornament. In fruit-time one or two strawberries

or two or three red raspberries gives it a very pleasant flavor. Serve either very cold or piping hot, as preferred.

When lemons are cheap it is a good idea to bottle some of the juice for times of emergency, as lemonade can then be very quickly made.

It is a very healthful drink to take before retiring.

The use of lemons will often ward off an attack of malaria, and thus save many a doctor's bill. M.

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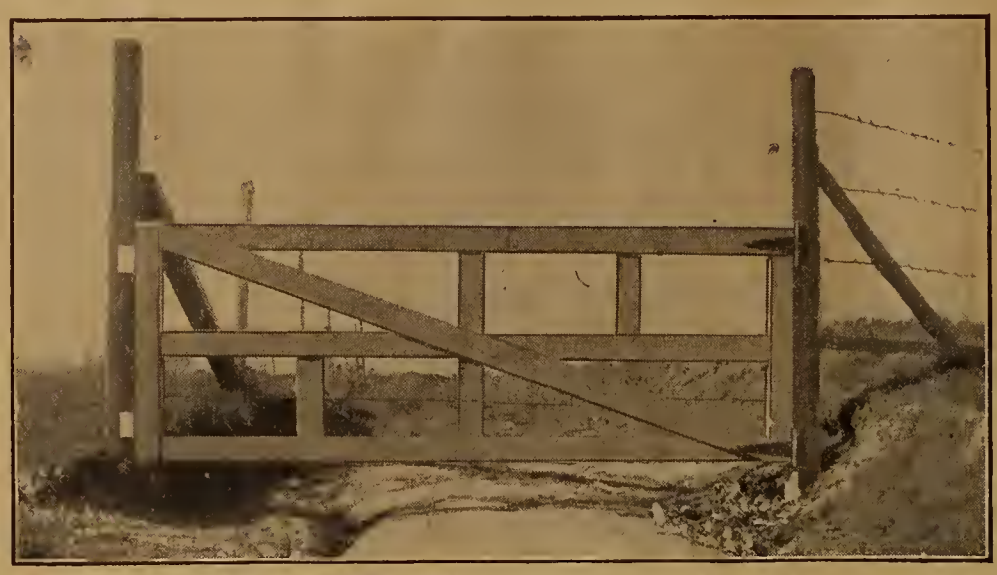
Evolution of the Farm Gate

By WALTER E. ANDREWS

THE farm gate has a pedigree so long that I shall not attempt to present it here. Ever since farming began there have been gates, and when the last farmer lays down his hoe in answer to the final call the gates of eternity will await his entrance. Therefore the study of gates is not without interest. We cannot know too much about them, nor learn to build them too well.

I regret exceedingly that I have not had time to obtain some photographs of the gates in use in past ages, but I am rather a busy man, and, besides, the idea occurred to me a few thousand years too late. However, here are a few pictures of modern gates which may serve to illumine the text to some extent.

Of course, every farmer has his own ideas on the subject of gates. Farmer Jones (and his opinion necessarily agrees with the opinion of his wife, Mandy) thinks that three poles supported by rope loops is a sufficiently luxurious gate idea; Deacon Pepperton scoffs at the "shiftlessness of such a measly apology for a gate," and points with pride to his own board gate, which swings on "real hinges;" Hank Peters doesn't say much, but you have only to look at his neatly painted wood-and-woven-wire creation to know what his ideas are. One or two neighboring farmers have more pretentious gates of iron or steel, other farmers strive for a "showy effect," while still others effectually show that they are not striving for anything except convenience and durability. In regard to gate-posts there is the same wide range of ideas and materials—from the common wooden post to the cement or stone support. Some hinges are pretty, some are homely; some are painted, and some are rusty.



DEACON PEPPERTON'S "DOLLAR-'N'-A-HALF" GATE

I have noticed for some time that as a community attains a better and a more substantial refinement and prosperity, the better and the more substantial its gates become. As the pioneer phase of farm life departs, the pole-and-rope phase departs likewise. As the purse and the mind grow deeper, the gate-posts grow heavier and the gates swing easier. Some philosopher once said that the signs of high civilization are the bath-room and the tooth-brush. Personally, I think the gate should be included in the list. A good gate is not only a badge of respectability, it is a good investment as well. Hank Peters once told me that his gate—which I believe cost him less than ten dollars—had added fully two hundred dollars to the selling value of his farm.

"How do you make that out?" I asked.

"Why," said he, "'cause a neat gate gives a place an air of—what d'ye call it?—distinction?"—I nodded—"which warn't there before."

"But is a bit of distinction worth two hundred dollars?"

"Yes, sir-ee!" he exclaimed, emphatically. "If you want to make a farm worth more'n it was before, you can't get too much distinction onto it!"

"But suppose you don't want to sell?"

"Well, the value's there, ain't it, just the same as if 'twere in the bank? An' it's a-drawin' interest—good, fat interest—every time you look at it. Eh?"

I said "yes" to both questions, and, incidentally, I took a photograph of the two-hundred-dollar gate. The gate doesn't look to be worth that amount, but I have confidence in Hank's word.

A day or so after the foregoing conversation I met Deacon Pepperton.

"Say!" said he.

"What is it?" said I.

"Mandy tells me you took a picture of Hank Peters' gate t'other day. Now, I've got a gate that's worth a dozen of those fancy ones. If you want a picture of a gate that is a gate, I ain't no objections to its bein' took."

So I "took" it while the Deacon rattled on in his brisk, confidential fashion, "That air gate cost me zackly a dollar 'n' a half. It's a good gate. Look at them hinges! Pretty, ain't they? An' look at them posts! I paid a shillin' apiece for 'em."

I was too busy just then to look or to answer, but the camera looked for me. Finally I said, "You want to sell your farm, I believe."

"Yep, if I can get a buyer."

"Any buyers around?"

"Plenty of 'em. But they don't seem to come nigh me. Hank Peters had three buyers a-chasin' after him last week, but he don't want to sell. I guess I'll have to advertise, or somethin'. That Peters is the durndest lucky feller that ever lived, anyway!"

A MORE PRETENTIOUS GATE

THE COMING CONFLICT IN THE EAST

The New York "Evening Post" presents under this heading a profound discussion by Prof. George Frederick Wright, of "The Bibliotheca Sacra," of the great and pressing problem of the Far East. He says:

"Sufficient attention does not seem to be given to the natural forces at work producing unrest in the Far East, and leading in the near future to an inevitable conflict which will mark one of the great epochs in human history. The forces bringing Russia, China and Japan into conflict are neither superficial nor temporary, but deep-seated and permanent. They have at their foundation the Malthusian law that population naturally tends to increase faster than the means of sustenance.

"Of Japan's one hundred and forty-six thousand square miles of territory, scarcely more than one tenth is capable of cultivation, the rest being so mountainous that even Japanese skill and industry have been unable to make it productive. The population, therefore, swarms about the margin of the island in numbers that seems almost incredible. Already, on the average, if we except the comparatively inhospitable northern island, there are more than two thousand people for every square mile of arable land in the kingdom. The census shows that the population is increasing at the rate of more than five hundred thousand annually. Ten years ago it was thirty-eight million; at the present time, excluding the three million annexed in Formosa, it is upward of forty-three million.

"At this rapid rate of increase — due among other causes to improved sanitary arrangements and increased medical skill, the practical abolition of infanticide and universal early marriages — there will, before the middle of this century, be a hundred million people to provide for. It is this prospect which is leading Japanese statesmen to make such frantic efforts to secure opportunity for colonization.

HANK PETERS' TWO-HUNDRED-DOLLAR GATE

"But by the operation of equally irresistible natural forces, Russia and China are in the way of Japan's continental expansion. In Manchuria, the very country which Japan needs, we have the spectacle, so noted in mechanics, of an irresistible meeting an immovable object, for Russia's march toward the Pacific Ocean is the slow movement of the same deep-seated forces which are disturbing Japan.

"The Slavic race is increasing at the rate of nearly two million a year. In 1859 the population of the Russian empire was only seventy-four million; in 1900 it was one hundred and thirty-five million. The opening up of Siberia by the introduction of steam navigation, and later by the construction of the great Siberian Railroad, has drawn population eastward in the Russian empire very much as the same forces have operated to draw it westward in the United States; so that now there are between six million and seven million Russians, mostly peasants, in Siberia. Manchuria is already surrounded on three sides by these Russian colonists, who are looking upon the fertile fields across the Argun, the Amur and Usuri much as our settlers in the West a few years ago looked upon the unoccupied territory of the Dakotas and Oklahoma.

"The conditions in Manchuria, the region coveted by all the three races as an outlet for their over-population, are peculiar—its people being nomadic, except as the Chinese agriculturists have spread over its southern portion, and the whole region infested with lawless robber bands, save as these bands have crystallized into a protective 'robber trust' in the southern portion, and the lands being very much in the same state of nature as were our Western prairies fifty years ago.

"In the natural progress of events, Russia has a decided advantage over the other contestants. The free navigation of the Amur and Usuri Rivers was something of a step in advance for Russian interests, but the building of the Chinese Eastern Railroad, which from one end to the other goes through the very center of the region, direct from Kaidalova to Vladivostok, and which bisects the southern half from Harbin to New-Chwang and Port Arthur, gives Russia a vantage-ground from which she cannot be dislodged by any attack upon the maritime border. The relation of Russia to this region is not very different from that which fifty years ago it sustained to the region north of the Amur, and, indeed, which the United States sustained at one time to the unoccupied lands upon the border of Mexico. In 1855 Muravieff might well have claimed the Amur Valley by right of discovery, so little was the country occupied by a settled population and so little was known about it. If now Russia should retain possession of northern Manchuria, it would not be to drive a settled population out, but to open it for the first time to the industries of a regularly organized government. But even then it would still be a question whether the country would fill up with Slavs or with Chinamen, for in a fair competition, or indeed with any sort of a chance, the frugal, industrious, hardy Chinese laborer is more than a match for the easy-going, improvident Russian peasant, while the Chinese possess an advantage in their vast numbers and in their proximity which cannot easily be overcome.

"Four hundred millions of people already adjusted to a civilization which has endured for centuries, and with social customs which secure an abnormally high birth-rate, present an immovable obstruction to Russian colonization. The Chinese will conquer by their very numbers. It is impossible to dislodge them from the field they already cover, while they are spreading out like a rising tide over all the surrounding region. All along the Mongolian border, beyond the outer great wall, Chinese farmers are covering the country with cultivated fields, substituting in this region oatmeal for rice as the staple staff of life, while around the Russian settlements in the vicinity of the Amur it is they who are depended upon to supply the cities and mining-camps with agricultural products.

"It requires but little reflection upon the facts here presented to impress one with the exceeding gravity of the problems confronting the statesmen of Russia, China and Japan in the adjustment of their mutual relations upon the Pacific coast. I do not know that any one has wisdom enough to say just what is the best to be done, but whatever the temporary settlements may be, no permanent solution can take place that does not secure a radical modification of the social customs and the individual aims of the teeming population of China and Japan now being permeated so rapidly by Western ideas. Western nations themselves can have little direct influence in determining the result. The alliance of England with Japan is of only passing significance."

Sunday Reading

LOGIC OF THE SABBATH

As a psychologist, I believe in the Sabbath day. One day in seven should be kept holy from work and sacred to man's primitive paradise of leisure. I am no Puritan pietist or even Sabbatarian in any severe sense, but hold that this is one of the greatest of all human institutions, and that the command to keep it as a day of rest is written in our physiological constitutions. If need be, it may be kept in sleep, man's great restorer. Monday our nerves and brain must be refreshed, and we must start a new weekly rhythm on a higher plane than we closed the old one. The mental scenery must be changed. The brooder's overthought must have enlarged our plans and given us both momentum and direction. What form the rest-cure should take differs perhaps for each person. I go to church, but my neighbors should perhaps spend the day in the fields, with children, in music, in books, but for all there should be peace, tranquillity, repose, surcease of worry, and relaxation. In no land should the Sabbath be so hallowed as in this land of hustle, tension and Americanitis.—G. Stanley Hall, in Ainslee's.

THE LAND OF THE CHALDEES

The past half century has witnessed greater progress in the study of the Bible than all the preceding centuries of our era. Two generations ago the scholar regarded the Assyrians and Babylonians as but little more important than the numerous tribes with which the Hebrews were surrounded. When, in 1842, the French consul, M. Botta, discovered the wonderful palace of Sargon at Khorsabad, covering twenty-five acres of ground and containing more than two hundred rooms, the scholar began to realize the greatness of Assyria. When he read upon the walls of that palace the Assyrian account of the capture of Samaria and of the deportation of the tribes of north Israel he began to see that a new and powerful help had come to the Bible student.

Later, Layard discovered the palaces of five Assyrian kings—three at Nimrud and two at Nineveh—and four of the builders of these palaces were Biblical characters. When George Smith read upon a fragment of a clay tablet from the great Assyrian library, which was recovered from the ruins of Nineveh, the words "I released a dove; it flew about, and, finding no resting-place, returned," a still greater impulse was given to Assyrian research. There are now at hand seven copies of the Babylonian story of the flood, of which one is nearly three thousand years older than the oldest Hebrew manuscript of the Pentateuch known to exist. There are also at hand three copies of the Babylonian story of the creation of the world.

We may now read Sennacherib's own account of the siege of Jerusalem, and study the history of Nebuchadnezzar from the writings of his own palace. Belshazzar, once called a legendary character, has left us a lease of a house which he rented as proof of his existence, and now we may read the account of the fall of Babylon, written at the dictation of the man who captured the city. Two generations ago the mothers were repeating to their children this nursery-rhyme:

"What is a name, the trumpet of fame?
The noble Osnappar was who?
He lived and he died, he laughed and he cried,
And that was all any one knew."

To-day this mysterious character, the great and noble Osnappar of the book of Ezra, is one of the best-known characters in history, for he is none other than Assurbanipal, the sculptures of whose palace and whose library enrich the British Museum.

When Desarzec excavated Telloh, and later, when Doctor Peters discovered the temple which Saragon I. erected at Nippur, 3800 B.C., the scholar believed that the very beginning of things had been found; but Doctor Haynes has dug ruins from beneath the foundation of that same temple in comparison with which the temple is almost modern. Biblical chronology, so long a puzzle, is becoming clear. The mysteries of the books of Daniel and the prophets are no longer mysteries, for with an understanding of the contemporary history of Babylonia and Assyria the most obscure passages are intelligible. Assyriology is the searchlight which, directed upon the Old Testament, makes clear its darkest passages.

Until the present time each Babylonian ruin which has been opened by the excavation has brought some new message from the past. Nippur and Telloh have told us of the most remote antiquity; Telel Amarna, Egypt, has presented us with letters in cuneiform written at Jerusalem just before Moses' time; Nimrud, Khorsabad and Nineveh have supplemented Hebrew history from 1000 B.C. to 626 B.C., and Babylon, through the generosity of the German emperor, is yielding its relics of the past exilic period.

Hebrew and Babylonian history of Abraham's time is still obscure, for the excavator has not yet uncovered a Babylonian city which was at its greatest prominence during his time. Ur is such a city. From the summit of the temple-ruin one may see mounds varying in height stretching for half a mile to the south and sloping away into the desert. In 1854 Mr. Taylor, the English consul at Busreh, dug from the ruins some bricks upon which was the word, U-ru, marking it as the original home of the Hebrews. His excavations were slight, but the results were remarkable. Shafts sunk here and there showed the construction of the tower-like temples. From the corners of its second story he took the long inscriptions of King Nabonidus, which speak of the crown prince, the Biblical Belshazzar. Near by he came upon the perfect walls of a house, and at still another place he uncovered two large jars filled with inscribed tablets. In many of the mounds were coffins containing, with the skeletons, engraved seal-cylinders, copper and clay dishes, water-jars and drinking-cups, gold, silver and agate beads, copper bangles, rings, bracelets, precious stones and weapons. Alexander the Great said that the kings of Assyria were buried in the marshes of the lower country. Their tombs may be found at Ur. What may excavations in the ruins of Ur reveal? Already we know that three dynasties of kings lived there. Remains of their palaces must exist, and search will reveal them. The inscriptions speak of at least five temples which have stood there. One remains, and in it we may hope to find a Babylonian library containing perhaps the original tablets from which the stories of the creation and flood were copied for the library at Nineveh. The few tablets already discovered are a part of it. The walls of the buildings may be covered with bas-reliefs and inscriptions.

In addition to the great value of the inscribed material which we have every right to expect to find there, it is probable, also, that we shall find remains of ancient art, for Ur was closely connected with Sippara (Telloh). The ziggurat at Ur also differs in its relations to the temple about it from the ziggurat at Nippur or that at Erech, both of which belong to the older period, and much more from the ziggurat at Borsippa, which belongs to the later period. The ziggurat at Ur was not raised on an enormous terrace or platform, as at Nippur and Erech, but was apparently surrounded by a wall, constituting a temenos, or sacred precinct. The excavation of this temple, which will be a comparatively easy work, will be of great importance in the study of the construction of Babylonian temples and the history of the development of the Babylonian religion.—"Records of the Past," by Doctor Banks.

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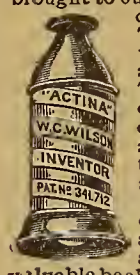

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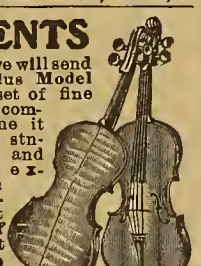

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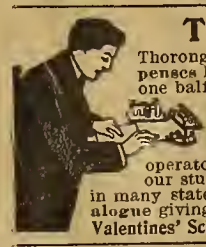

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if it does come a little late, is very acceptable. Our New Prize Picture Contest, on page 18 of this paper, will close January 1st. Some one is going to get the $100.00. Why don't YOU try for it?

Tim

By GLIN BURTON

It was three o'clock in the afternoon, but the great city was lighted, for the black smoke that belched forth from the factories all day had deepened the dense fog as it rolled in from the ocean, and with difficulty the policemen's clubs were seen as they signaled the crowd of surging humanity over the slippery cobble-stones under the very heads of the restless horses. As the day advanced the procession of umbrellas increased. It was Christmas eve. The windows were lavishly trimmed with wreaths and bunches of holly and festoonings of green, and there was a wealth of carnations and roses that had bloomed in the Sunny South.

At the edge of the pavement before a large toy-store stood a man, a German, whose face broke into broadening smiles as he looked at the crowd of delighted juveniles who were watching the antics of Santa Claus, who was operating some of the ingenious toys with which his sleigh was fairly bulging. He took from it a gaily striped toy, which he wound and placed on the table, and, presto! a little tin cornetist began to play, and circling around him was a dancing tambourine-girl. The little folks fairly howled with delight, and a freckle-faced, red-haired newsboy whirled around on one foot in grotesque imitation of the dancer, and exclaimed, "Golly! Wouldn't Sis like that!" Then his businesslike cry of "Evening papers! Paper, sir?" and the amused spectator bought an "Examiner," and did not wait for the change. But honest Tim made a dive through the crowd with the change, but the German only smiled as he wished him a "merry Christmas," and Tim was so embarrassed his eyes spoke the gratitude he felt. He rushed into the store. The tired shop-girl, in answer to his inquiry, told him the toys were all gone. "Oh! but there's one left in the window," said persistent Tim. "It's for my little sister, and she hasn't walked for a year." There was something so pleading in the boy's eyes that she called "Cash," and then with the coveted toy securely tied to his left arm, Tim hurried to the station.

The train was not in, and the waiting-rooms and platforms were crowded with the usual motley crowd, but more interesting with its endless variety of shapeless parcels. Sitting near a window were two women too busily engaged in conversation to bestow much attention on the child that hovered near them. She wandered to the platform, looking like a snowflake in her dainty white cloak. On she toddled across the track, probably attracted by the bright rows of red and green lanterns that were lighted ready for the train that was so near. A few realized her danger, some one screamed, but she turned and regarded them with wide-eyed wonder. "Evening papers" rang again through the fog. "Evening pa—" The cry was never finished—his keen eyes had seen the bewildered child, his strong young arm had caught and thrown her out of danger, and then a piercing shriek of fright and anguish rang through the fog, above the din of hissing steam and clanging bell, as the great, cruel wheels rolled over the foot of the little hero.

The becindered and screaming Louise was carried to the waiting-room by a benevolent-faced old gentleman, from whose arms she was rudely snatched by the frightened nurse, who had but recently missed her charge. Into an elegant private conveyance she was taken, and in a short time the horses stopped before a fashionable store, where Mrs. Bronell was shopping. An ambulance passed while they were waiting; in it was a little figure as mute as the little tin toy that was tied to its arm.

An ambulance in a city is but a passing shadow that is soon forgotten. It received but a casual glance from the careless nurse, who was doing her best to pacify the sobbing child who she honestly believed had fallen on the dirty platform. It took more than one lullaby to sooth the nerves of Louise, for she talked continuously about "bad boy" and "big, black choo-choo;" but at last the eyes were closed, and gently disengaging her fingers from the baby clasp, and smoothing the dainty coverlids over her darling, the mother passed into an adjoining room.

She was busily engaged in arranging the last of her Christmas shopping when Katie, the maid, appeared in the doorway, and while her eyes feasted on the glories displayed around the room, she delivered her message in her quiet way. "There's some one at the 'phone to speak to you," she said, and a few minutes later Mrs. Bronell was listening to the following from the matron of the Mercy Hospital:

"There is another patient in the 'Louise Room.' A newsboy, while saving the life of a little child, was injured by the afternoon train. He is in great agony, but will live."

"A sad Christmas for some one," mused Mrs. Bronell, as she left the hall, and then there were plans revolving in her mind as to how the little sufferer might be made more comfortable in the room they had so generously endowed.

An hour later she and her husband called at the hospital. As they passed the "Louise Room" on the way to the office they heard tinkling sounds of music. What could it all mean? Surely there was some mistake. A nurse was coming toward them, and from her they learned what she knew of the little newsboy.

'He was perfectly unconscious while we cared for him, and only a few minutes ago he opened his eyes and looked at me so pleadingly. I asked him if he wanted something. 'Yes, mum; please tell me if she's all right.' 'Yes,' I answered; 'you've saved her.' 'No, not the baby.' He looked at his arm, and then I remembered the little box that had been tied to it. To please him I opened the box, and the frail toy was uninjured. 'Will you make her go?' he asked, faintly. I wound the toy, and placed it on the table. A glad little smile lighted up his white face, and he wearily said, 'She's all right,' then closed his eyes as if to sleep, and so I left him."

Mrs. Bronell's voice was husky as she used her handkerchief, and turning to her husband, said, "I believe this must be Mrs. Maloney's boy; for when Bridget brought Louise's dresses to-night she said her sister was so worried because her son, who carried papers, had not returned for supper."

"I hardly think it can be the same," said Mr. Bronell, as he thought of the army of newsboys.

But it was the same. The morning papers gave a glowing account of the affair; how a brave little newsboy had saved the life of a child whose name had not been learned. The incident was remembered by a very few; but in one humble home a small part of the column was carefully placed between the pages of the family Bible.

Flowers, sweet and beautiful, such as Tim had seen but never held, were sent to cheer his lonely hours. Mrs. Bronell became much interested in him. She brought him picture-books that told beautiful stories, even to ignorant newsboys, and several times she read to him. His mother was a hard-working woman, and now that Tim's share of support was taken away she could afford only to come to see him after dark, and then he was so sleepy. His father reeled into the room one evening, and severely upbraided him for getting in the way of the train. His visit excited poor Tim so much that his paternal parent was not admitted when he came again.

One morning Mrs. Bronell entered the room, and noticed at once how pale he was. There was a longing look in the blue eyes that stories or roses could not satisfy.

"Well, Tim," she asked, cheerily, "what do you want more than anything else in the world?"

"I want to see Annie so bad."

"Who is Annie?" she queried.

"Annie's my little sister what's lame. I left her fall one day when a big black dog chased me. She ain't never walked for more'n a year, and I s'pose she's been a-missin' of me, mum."

There was a volume of pathos in the boy's voice that made Mrs. Bronell hesitate before she said, "If you tell me where you live, you shall see your little sister as soon as I can bring her," and in a few minutes she left him looking happier than he had for days, and inwardly reproaching herself for her lack of thoughtfulness.

Into the slum district of the city the prancing horses gingerly picked their way, disdaining to notice the urchins that swarmed to the landau that had stopped before the tenement in which the Maloneys lived. The room was filled to the ceiling with steam, for Tim's mother was up to her elbows in suds, but she wiped her face and hands with her blue gingham apron after making her courtesy. Mrs. Bronell quickly told her errand, and the delighted Mrs. Maloney dusted a much-scrubbed chair for her guest, and then promptly turned her attention to the little girl of five, who had been watching this strange visitor with much interest. A green ribbon was tied at the terminus of the little auburn braid after her face and hands had been energetically rubbed, a fresh apron put on over the patched dress, then wrapping her carefully in an old plaid shawl, Mrs. Maloney proudly announced that Annie was ready. She placed her in the carriage amid the envious glances of admiration bestowed on her by the juvenile portion of the neighborhood, and then the carriage rolled rapidly away.

How quiet she was, but how busy her eyes were! She gazed in wonderment at the rich upholstery; she smoothed it almost reverently with her thin hand; she noticed the bright little mirrors at the side, then sank contentedly back among the cushions. She was startled by the ringing of a bell. The grand lady said something to the big man outside, and they stopped before a fruit-stand, and soon a lovely basket of fruit was placed where she could feast her eyes on the great bunches of luscious green grapes filling the spaces between the golden oranges.

A few blocks more, and they were at the hospital. The footman carried her up-stairs, and there was her brother Tim, who had been out of her little world for three long weeks. How pale he was! But his thin cheeks glowed with real happiness when he saw Annie in a comfortable chair by his bedside.

Mrs. Bronell saw that the little girl should be well cared for, and telling them she would take her home at five, she left well satisfied with her morning's work.

Shortly before five Tim had another visitor. A little child daintily dressed in white entered the room, carrying a large bunch of pink carnations. But why did Tim stare at her so wildly that Louise was loathe to give him the pretty flowers?

Kind Mrs. Bronell feared that the excitement of the day had been too much for Tim, and was sure of it when he asked, "Was the baby hurt when I threw her?"

"What do you mean, Tim?"

"Why, don't you know that's the baby that was on the track?" he said, his face paling at the remembrance.

"My baby on the track!" she repeated, in a dazed sort of way; and then she recalled how excited Louise was Christmas eve, the becindered cloak, her sudden aversion to the train. Then, with a woman's intuition, she saw it all.

"Oh, Tim! Tim! And you saved my baby!" she half sobbed. "You poor, poor boy!" and the tears fell on the brave young hands that loosely held the flowers, and her hand tenderly brushed the red locks back from the freckled brow. "How can I ever repay you?" she said, remembering his pitiful condition.

"Oh, you've been mighty good to me. And to think you never knowed it, neither." And Tim regarded his benefactress with undisguised admiration.

Another week has passed; there are fresh flowers in the "Louise Room;" the fire throws fitful lights on the brownies and cupids in the tiling of the grate; little Louise and Annie are in the corner of the room, and the tambourine-girl trips untiringly the "light fantastic toe." Mr. and Mrs. Bronell are discussing plans for Tim's future. He will always be lame, but his life will be broadened and brightened by all that money and gratitude can do.

ABOUT A "PI"

BY MARY E. MERRILL

"Well, mother, I've lost my place. I knew I should. Of course the fellow that did it wouldn't own up—never will. Every one believes it was I. I knew I'd be fired."

"But, Stanton, they haven't any right. They can't prove it! And they know you've always been honest. I'm sure Mr. Cameron doesn't believe it of you!"

"It was Mr. Cameron himself who told me they would not need me any longer."

"But, my boy, he doesn't understand, I'm sure. I'll go and see him myself."

"It's no use, mother. You couldn't tell him any more about it than he already knows. He believes I am lying, and why shouldn't he? I was the last one to leave the 'comp'-room Monday night. I locked up, and took the key with me. Looks as if any other fellow who got in must have gone through the keyhole. The form was leaning against the stone safe enough when the men left. It was a heap of 'pi' on the floor this morning. No wonder they all think it doesn't hold when I say I don't know anything about it. No one but you, mother, could believe me. I'm sure I can't see for the life of me how the thing was done, though, without hands. Andrews put the form there, and he says he left it in such a way that it could not fall of itself. In fact, I know he did; I saw him. I declare, I almost think sometimes I must have done it—only I know I didn't."

"Well, we won't worry about it, dear. I think it must all come out some time; and if it doesn't, your conscience is clear. Let's don't fret over it. Now that you will be at home to-morrow you can help me get ready for Christmas."

Mrs. Emmonds put her hand caressingly on the boy's shoulder, and tried to speak cheerfully, but his gloomy face did not brighten.

"I don't want any Christmas!" he burst out. "I likely won't get another place all winter. It'll be hard enough to find any kind of a job after the recommend that Cameron & Boone will give me now. Everybody thinks I'm a sneak, coward and a liar. The fellows at the office hadn't any use for me yesterday."

"Not Frank Kendrick?"

"Frank wasn't there; but I know he won't chum with me any more when he hears. He left town this morning with his camera when he heard of the freight-wreck on the Central. He'll sell his pictures easy, too; he always does. The one he took of the force Monday was fine. There's a fellow, now, that never has any bad luck. He's got a nice position in the office, where he can keep his hands clean, and everything comes his way. Frank's a fine, good fellow. I have always been proud to be his chum; but now, of course, he wouldn't be seen with a sneak, coward and liar. No," he concluded, bitterly, "I don't want any Christmas. I don't feel happy. It's the hardest luck I ever had. I don't see anything I have to be happy over."

Mrs. Emmonds made no reply, but Stanton kept his eyes upon the floor to avoid seeing the pain he knew was in hers after those words. Fluff, the maltese kitten, tried to climb into his lap, but he put her down roughly. The kettle sang in that cheerful way that one likes to hear when it begins to grow dark and there is a touch of frost in the air outside. As Mrs. Emmonds, with a long fork in her hand, stooped and opened the oven door, the delicious odor of baked potatoes came forth.

"Father's coming now. I'll take the dinner right up. Come, dear, get ready. We have cup-custards to-night, warm and rich, just as you like them," she said.

But Stanton ate his dinner in silence, and all the evening sat with knit brows, staring at the open book in his hands, the pages of which he never turned. Finally he tossed the book upon the table, and left the room without a word. Half way up the stairs he stopped, hesitated a moment, then returned to the sitting-room, and said good-night, trying to speak as usual. When he reached his own room, however, he stood still in the middle of the floor for a long time. Suddenly straightening his shoulders and throwing back his head, he said aloud, "Yes, I am happy. I'm sorry I said I wasn't. I'm happy I'm not a sneak,

coward and a liar, though Mr. Cameron, Frank Kendrick and all the other fellows at the office think I am!"

"Frank, my boy, have those revised proofs been sent over to the Midland Company?"

"Yes, Mr. Cameron."

"And the 'Plumbers' Magazine' last-form proof?"

"It has been sent over, sir."

"And Mr. York's sample folder? Must get these all out, you know, as we close down to-night until Friday."

"That hasn't come down yet, sir. Mr. York was to call for it himself."

"Ah, yes, that's so. Spend your Christmas in town, do you, Frank?"

"No, sir; we are all to go to Uncle Will's in the country."

"Yes? That's right; fine thing for you. Ah, here's Mr. York now. How are you, Mr. York? Have a seat, sir. Frank, just step up to the 'comp'-room for that folder for this gentleman."

"Yes, sir;" and Frank ran nimbly up-stairs.

On his way to the foreman's desk he passed down the alley where stood the long row of job-presses. "Hello, Hans, what's the news?" he cried, with a friendly slap on the pressman's shoulder.

Hans faced about, benzin-can in one hand and inky rag in the other. "Stant's fired," he said.

"Oh, get out!"

"Yes, he is. Sure thing."

"Fired! For what?"

"Pied an eight-page form—solid minion."

"How?"

"Dunno. Says he didn't, but they don't believe him, and it was all up with him last night."

"Here, Frank, give these tickets to the timekeeper down there," interrupted the foreman.

"Yes, sir. Is the sample folder ready for Mr. York?"

"Yes, here it is."

Frank went thoughtfully down-stairs. Entering the office by the rear door, he stopped a moment at the timekeeper's desk. From the opposite side of the room came distinctly the proprietor's words: "Yes, Mr. York, Frank Kendrick's a bright boy, and I mean to do well by him. He's careful and truthful. Now, there's Stanton Emmonds. I thought he was of the same stamp, but I regret to say I have just been obliged to discharge him for a serious offense."

Mr. York's eyebrows lifted slightly. "Dishonest?"

"No—well, yes. It was this way: Monday night, when he was alone in the composing-room, he knocked down and pied a form that it will cost us a good round sum to reset, and then he attempted to lie out of it. Such a young man I have no place for in my employ."

Slowly the truth dawned upon Frank. He knew who was the guilty party. But need any one else know it? Mr. Cameron had said he had no place for such an employee. Why tell, then, and lose his position? No; he dare not. He would keep still. But Stanton? Well, that was Stanton's affair. Frank held his head very erect as he went up to his employer's desk and handed him the folder, but his heart beat strangely, and the world seemed slipping away from him.

"That will do for to-night, my boy; you may go now. Think we'll have to give you this last half-hour, since you have worked pretty well to-day."

Mr. Cameron beamed cordially upon the unhappy boy, but his smile changed to a look of astonishment when Frank stammered out, "It's all wrong, Mr. Cameron! Stanton's the faithful fellow. I'm the one, sir—the one you've no place for. I pied the form. It was my blunder. Stanton told the truth when he said he didn't do it."

"Do you know what you are talking about, young man?" said the employer, sternly. "You are excited. You were not in the composing-room after it was closed Monday night, unless Stanton disobeyed the rules by giving you admittance."

"No, sir; he did not. You see, it was this way: After I started for home I remembered I had forgotten my camera. I had left it in the stock-room. I ran back for it. Stanton was closing the windows, and didn't see me come into the composing-room and go through into the stock-room. Before I had got the camera folded up he switched the lights off, and I heard him go out and close the door after him. I didn't call to him, though, for I knew I could get out. I didn't need a key to unfasten the lock from the inside, and it would fasten itself after me. I found what I wanted in the dark, and started to come out. As I came back through the 'comp'-room I ran against something, and knocked it onto the floor. I didn't know what it was, but I thought then it was the door of the ink-cupboard, which I had noticed that day was off its hinges and stood leaning against the stone. I never dreamed I had pied a form. I was very careless, Mr. Cameron. I should have stopped to see, of course; but it was dark, and I was in a hurry. Then, you know, I left town the next morning early, and I never thought of it again. But Stanton had nothing to do with it, sir. He may come back, may he not? It is I who must lose my place. I'll go to-night, sir. You'll take him back, of course. He'll be awfully down."

Mr. Cameron listened in much surprise until Frank had concluded, when he replied, "Well, well, well!"

The silence seemed to Frank long and painful before that gentleman spoke again. When he did it was to say, "Well, well! I think Stanton has to come back to us, but I don't know about this resignation of yours. Think we can't accept that. Hope you'll see fit to remain with us. You'd better go home now, my boy. Good-night. Hope you will enjoy Christmas."

"Thank you, Mr. Cameron. I shall," replied Frank, earnestly.

That night Stanton Emmonds and his mother had a confidential talk.

"I felt that it would all come right," said Mrs. Emmonds.

"Oh, mother, what a mean fellow I was to talk as I did! I am glad to-morrow is Christmas!" replied Stanton.

A CHRISTMAS SOUVENIR

BY FRANK H. SWEET

Mrs. Bigelow Stevens was walking slowly on Ormond Beach, gazing listlessly at the white sand-dunes or out across the sea, and occasionally pausing to pick up a shell, which she was almost sure to cast aside indifferently a moment later. She was stopping at the Ormond, and a carriage was now waiting her signal at a notch in the dunes which marked the road. On the sand-ridge above the road was the Coquina Hotel, isolated and lacking paint, but having a reputation for good viands and excellent table service. It was popular with those who desired quiet and bathing, and there were even now a number enjoying the surf just as though it were not the day before Christmas, and along the beach between them and the hotel were a dozen or more children, some playing in the water and some in the sand.

Mrs. Bigelow Stevens paused, and gazed at them with dimming eyes. She had lost her own little girl but a few months before, and for that reason she was here; not to forget, but to find new scenes to awaken her interest. Presently a child of five or six separated from her companions, and came racing up the beach in pursuit of a hat which was rolling merrily along before a gust of wind. Mrs. Stevens reached out her parasol and intercepted the runaway.

"Thank you!" gasped the little girl, out of breath, but looking up with a roguish smile on her bright face. "I shall whip it when I get home." Then, instead of returning to her companions, she grasped a finger of her new friend. "May I walk with you?" she asked, beginning to swing along as though the permission was granted.

"Of course," with a curious mingling of pain and pleasure in her voice. It had not been very long since she had felt a little girl of her own clinging to her finger and swinging along like that. "I shall be very glad to have company."

She was silent for some minutes, her lips tremulous with recollections of the past, and during that time the little girl made excursions from her finger to investigate escaping crabs and curious shells, and even the last efforts of waves that sent long lines of shallow water curving up toward their feet. At length Mrs. Stevens' lips grew firmer, and she looked down.

"I suppose your mother is here," she said.

The child in her turn became grave. "I haven't any mama," she answered; "and my papa doesn't walk with me like he used to." She hesitated a little, and then went on, with childish frankness, "He—he talks loud to me sometimes, and his face gets red, and—and he strikes me. I don't have anybody to play with now. That's why I wanted to walk with you."

"There are the other little girls," said Mrs. Stevens.

The child's face flushed, and her eyes began to flash resentfully. "They are bad children!" she exclaimed. "They laugh at me, and say my papa drinks, and they call him 'red face.' I don't like them one bit. And my papa isn't a drunkard; he's just sorry 'cause mama left. And he can strike me just as much as he likes. 'Tain't none of their business. So there!"

Mrs. Stevens bent down and kissed the flushed, passionate face. "Never mind what they say, dear. They don't mean it all, and they do it just to plague you. Now let us look along the beach for some of those curious 'eye stones.'"

That evening Mr. Stevens was looking over some new curiosities he had purchased. He did not care much for such things, but this winter he was trying to cultivate an enthusiasm for them in hope of interesting his wife. Thus far, however, he had met with only indifferent success.

"There are some really fine Florida sketches in that studio in the new block," he said presently, looking up from a nautilus shell he had been examining. "One of them will make a nice souvenir of Ormond. You have something from all the other places we have visited, and now a good local painting will add variety to your collection. If you like, you may select one as a Christmas present."

"I heard Mrs. Dorn speaking about them the other day," Mrs. Stevens replied, doubtfully. "She said they were eighty dollars each. Isn't that rather high for local talent?"

"Ordinarily, perhaps; but these are of superior workmanship. However, if you do not care for them, you may select anything else you like. This year I am going to give you two presents—my usual one and one of your own choosing as an Ormond souvenir." He turned back to his shell, only to raise his head again quickly. "By the way, I forgot to tell you about a man I met on the street to-day. You remember Seaton, the bookkeeper, who ran away with two thousand dollars?"

"Yes."

"Well, it was he, but so changed I hardly recognized the man. In his case, crime has certainly proved its own punishment. Two years ago he was reckless, but was very scrupulous about his personal appearance; now he is only a slovenly, red-faced toper." Mr. Stevens paused, and ran his fingers through his hair in an irritable, disgusted sort of way. "It isn't the man I care for," he grumbled, "but a fellow of his stamp seems to drag so much good into the mire with him. Fortunately his wife is dead, for she was a true, noble woman, but there is a child left."

"Did you have him arrested?" Mrs. Stevens asked.

"No; what was the use?" a little apologetically. "He has gone through the money—and through himself almost. When he saw me he was too scared to speak, and just stood there trembling. I asked a few questions, and found that the money was all gone and that he owed a month's board at the Coquina. He even confessed that he was thinking of running away and leaving the child."

"What!" with incredulous horror and loathing in her voice.

"Yes; he has fallen that low, through remorse and drink." Mr. Stevens again ran his fingers through his hair, glancing at his wife as though doubtful of her approval. "Maybe you'll think I'm foolish, dear," he went on, "but I advised him to go. I even offered to pay his expenses out of the country. You see, it's just this way," hurriedly, and without waiting for her comment: "The child is best off without him. He did not seem at all sorry for the past, only that the money was gone and he did not know where to get more. I told him that if he would leave the country and never return I would pay his bill at the Coquina and send his girl away to some boarding-school where she could prepare herself for a better future than he could give."

"How old is the child?" Mrs. Stevens asked, eagerly.

"Oh, five or six; and she is a very nice little girl."

Mrs. Stevens rose from her chair with an unwonted light in her eyes. "Yes, she is a nice little girl. Now may I hold you to your word, and take whatever I like for my present—my Christmas souvenir?"

"Why, certainly, dear," with glad tenderness, as he detected the new interest in her eyes and voice, "whatever you like."

"Then I will take the little girl to be our own."

He half rose in his astonishment, but the look on her face prevented even the appearance of expostulation. "Very well, dear," he said; "we will go for her in the morning."

THE MAHOGANY-TREE

Christmas is here;
Winds whistle shrill,
Icy and chill,
Little care we;
Little we fear
Weather without,
Sheltered about
The mahogany-tree.

Once on the boughs
Birds of rare plume
Sang, in its bloom;
Night-birds are we;
Here we carouse,
Singing, like them,
Perched round the stem
Of the jolly old tree.

Here let us sport,
Boys, as we sit—
Laughter and wit
Flashing so free.
Life is but short—
When we are gone,
Let them sing on,
Round the old tree.

Evenings we knew,
Happy as this;
Faces we miss,
Pleasant to see.
Kind hearts and true,
Gentle and just,
Peace to your dust!
We sing round the tree.

Care, like a dun,
Lurks at the gate.
Let the dog wait;
Happy we'll be!
Drink, every one;
Pile up the coals;
Fill the red bowls,
Round the old tree!

Drain we the cup.
Friend, art afraid?
Spirits are laid
In the Red Sea.
Mantle it up;
Empty it yet;
Let us forget,
Round the old tree!

Sorrows, begone!
Life and its ills,
Duns and their bills,
Bid we to flee.
Come with the dawn,
Blue-devil sprite;
Leave us to-night,
Round the old tree!

—William Makepeace Thackeray.

THE OLD MILL

There's a dusty old mill on the bank of a stream
Where the road winds its venturesome way,
And the waters that urge the old wheel ever seem
As they leap down the rocks with the jolliest gleam
On a midsummer's day, as they're running away,
To be chasing the sunbeams in play.

But the dusty old mill on the bank of the stream
Sings a song of content thro' the day,
And the miller in white, like the soul of a dream,
Flitting busily on in pursuit of his theme,
Measures time to the lay that the stones ever play,
As the waters go laughing away.

When the shadows glide out from the trees on the hill,
At the close of a midsummer's day,
To caress and enfold the old moss-covered mill
Till the wheel, soothed to rest, becomes passive, then still,
There are fortunes to weigh that the waters in play
Have tossed up to the genius in gray.

Oh! the mossy old mill nestles under the hill,
Taking toll the soft night breezes pay,
Resting there in the fairylike moonlight until
The quick flashes of dawn its gray spirit shall thrill,
And the glad waters play, ever laughing and gay,
Thro' the wheel all the long, golden day.

—Geo. E. Bowen, in Inter Ocean.

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SEND your name and address and we will mail you **30 pieces of Art Jewelry,** no trash, to sell at only 10 cents each. Every one you offer them to will buy one or more. When sold send us the **$3.00** and we will send you at once, **all charges prepaid,** this

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No. 4289.—Ladies' Knickerbockers with Yoke. 10 cents. Sizes, 22 to 32 inches waist.

No. 4297.—Workman's Shirt with Shield. 10 cents. Sizes, 34 to 44 inches breast.

No. 4234.—Girls' Costume. 11 cents. Sizes, 6 to 12 years.

How to Dress

THEATER-GOWN

Dinner and theater gowns made with stylishly low necks and elbow-sleeves are greatly in vogue, and are exceedingly becoming to the greater number of women. The very elegant model illustrated is made of Du Barry brocade showing pale pink flowers on a ground of pastel-tan, combined with French crochet lace over white silk veiled with chiffon. The waist is one of the latest, closing at the back, and includes an elaborate garniture, which can be made of brocaded or flowered silk over a plain material, as well as of lace. The skirt combines a full-length front panel, with side and back gores lengthened by a graduated flounce. As shown the front breadth is of lace and plain, but the pattern includes a plaited panel that is exceedingly effective when one material is used.

It is quite the thing now to dress a little more for the theater, since bonnets or hats are laid aside during the performance, and every one should have a chic way of arranging the hair, with some pretty bow or ornament, so as to appear dressed for the evening. The prettily arrayed ladies dotted over a large audience add very much to the beauty of the entertainment.

If you wish to wear a square, low-cut gown, the bad appearance of the upper neck can be concealed by a wide band of pearl beads, or a piece of black velvet with a pretty clasp, edged with a fringe of jet beads. This is very pretty in effect, while half concealing the blemishes made by high and stiff collars. With elbow-sleeves long gloves can be worn, either of black or white kid. With a very light or white silk waist black gloves in the unfinished kid are more elegant than those of any other shade.

Fans for evening are now tiny affairs of gauze and spangle, and seem almost a plaything.

A very neat affair is the glove handkerchief. This is a tiny affair of sheer linen, trimmed with lace, that can be tucked into the opening of the glove or carried in the hand, as desired.

THEATER-GOWN

MISSES' WALKING-SUIT

Velveteen spotted with a contrasting color is exceedingly fashionable, and is peculiarly well adapted to young girls' wear. The stylish suit illustrated is of the material in gray spotted with dark red, and is trimmed with the velvet in the same color as the spots. The design, however, suits cloth, zibeline and all the season's materials equally well.

LADIES' PROMENADE-SUIT

Combinations of rough cloths with smooth are much in vogue, and are exceedingly smart. The stylish costume illustrated is especially well adapted to such treatment, and suits many combinations and materials, but as shown it is of chestnut-brown zibeline combined with broadcloth in a rich tan color, trimmed with fancy stitching and drop buttons of silk. The coat is a novelty, and includes the fashionable stole cape that can be worn as a separate wrap if desired. The skirt is cut in five gores, and is lengthened by a graduated circular flounce.

MISSES' WALKING-SUIT

LADIES' PROMENADE-SUIT

Any one of these patterns, separately, can be had at this office for ten cents. Mention Dress Department.

Theater-gown.—Waist, No. 4291. 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measures. Graduated Flounce Skirt, No. 4014. 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measures.

Misses' Walking-suit.—Blouse Jacket, No. 4293. In sizes for misses of 12, 14 and 16 years. Skirt, No. 3943. In sizes for misses of 12, 14 and 16 years.

Ladies' Promenade-suit.—Blouse Coat with Stole, No. 4296. 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measures. Five-gored Skirt, No. 4075. 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measures.

Wit and Humor

HIS TURN

SMALL BOY—"Give me a large bottle of the very worst kind of medicine you've got in your store."

Druggist—"What's wrong? What do you want it for?"

Small boy—"Well, I've been left all alone with grandma, and she's suddenly been taken sick, and I'm going to get even with her!"—Life.

HAD TO

"You sell ladies' hats here?" began the sour-looking man.

"Certainly," replied the milliner, repressing a smile. "You want to buy one for your wife?"

"No, I don't, but it looks as if I'd have to."—Philadelphia Press.

NO DOUBT OF IDENTITY

One morning a banker stepped into his office and most effusively greeted his bookkeeper, who had entered his service just twenty-five years before, at the same time handing him a closed envelope with the remark "This is to serve you as a memento of the present occasion."

The grateful recipient did not venture at first to open the envelope until encouraged to do so by a nod and a smile from his employer. And what do you think it contained? The banker's photograph—that, and nothing more.

The bookkeeper was dumb for the moment.

"Well, what do you think of it?" his principal inquired.

"It's just like you," was the reply.—New-Yorker.

NEW NAME FOR INDIAN CORN

A lady reader of the Washington "Post" tells a pretty little story of an Englishman's new name for corn:

"An Englishman and his wife sat near me in a café on the Avenue the day before yesterday. I knew they were English as soon as I saw his coat and her hair. Even if I had not seen these two unmistakable things I should have guessed their nationality from a name they gave to an American dish. The man was ordering luncheon.

"'I don't see it on the bill of fare,' he said to the waiter, 'but bring me some flute corn if you have it.'

"'Flute corn?' repeated the waiter, in surprise.

"'Yes,' said the Englishman; 'flute corn.'

"The waiter still hesitated.

"'Why,' went on the Englishman; 'don't you have it? The sort of corn, you know, that one eats like playing the flute.'

"And as a delicate euphemism for corn on the cob, I think 'flute corn' can hardly be surpassed."

HUMOROUS

"But what will you do when all the vermiform appendixes shall have been removed?"

The great surgeon smiled. "I was reading only to-day," he said, "that the stomach may be taken out."

"Without killing the patient?"

"How funny you are!" exclaimed the great surgeon, and laughed outright.—Life.

THE HOPPING RHEUMATISM

"Yes," said the old man, "'peard laik he wuz gib obah inter de han's ob Satan an' Satan 'flicted him wid de hoppin' rheumatism. Fust it wuz in one place, an' den it wuz anodah; but he went ter prayin' ter be reliebe' ob it, an' one day, whilst it wuz a-hoppin' fum one j'int ter anodah, it hopped inter his wooden leg, an' he pulled off de leg, an' th'owed it in de fire, an' it an' de rheumatism wuz teetotally consumed."—Atlanta Constitution.

SOME CYNICAL SAYINGS OF DIOGENES

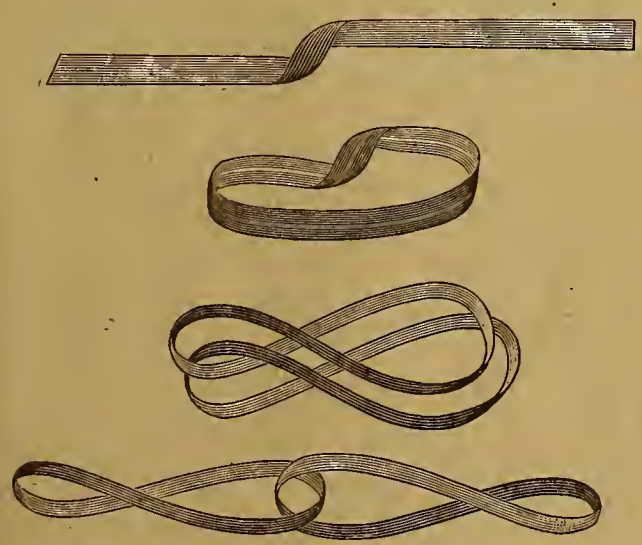
Of the "bon mots" of the Greeks not many very brilliant ones have come down to us. A happy saying of Socrates is reported regarding sculpture and education: "I wonder that men should give so much to turn a stone into a man, and so little to prevent a man from turning into a stone." What could be more pertinent or pithy than the rejoinder of Lysander to a citizen of Megara, who, at a common council of Greek states, was "talking big" and laying down a policy with an authoritative air: "Your words want a city." The cynical tub-philosopher, Diogenes, gave utterance to some rasping sarcasms. Seeing a number of persons firing at a mark, he placed himself directly before it, saying that it was the safest place. Going by a house over the door of which was inscribed "Let nothing evil enter here!" he asked, "How, then, can the owner get in?" We have spoken of the exquisite delicacy of French wit. A happy example was the reply of Voltaire, when, having extolled Haller, he was told that he was very generous, since Haller had said the very contrary of him. "Perhaps both of us are mistaken," said the wit, after a short pause. We doubt, however, if any French "mot" or repartee ever surpassed in delicacy the reply made by an East Indian servant of Lord Dufferin when he was Viceroy of India. "Well, what sort of sport has Lord Blank had?" said Dufferin one day to his "shikarry," or sporting-servant, who had attended a young English lord on a shooting excursion. "Oh!" replied the scrupulously polite Hindu, "the young Sahib shot divinely, but God was very merciful to the birds."—Saturday Evening Post.

The Young People

A PERPLEXING PUZZLE

THE following puzzle, culled from an English magazine, has been sent to us by Mr. O. Podewils, of New York City, who asks to have it explained:

If a flat strip of paper be taken, and its ends pasted together to form a ring, and it be then cut along its center line, two similar but entirely separate rings will be formed, unconnected in any way. If, however, the paper be twisted as illustrated in the uppermost view, and its ends be pasted together to form a ring with a single twist in it, this ring,



when cut along its center line, will form two rings, one looped within the other, as shown in the third and fourth views.

Perplexing as this may seem at first glance, the explanation is quite simple. We may consider the upper edge of the paper strip as one ring and the lower edge as the other. Now, following the edges of the twist, as shown in the second view, it is evident that one edge has been twisted completely around the other edge; or, in other words, one edge or ring has been passed through the other ring, which, when cut apart, form two interlooped rings.—Scientific American.

A WORD TO BOYS

Boys, you were made to be kind. If there is a boy in school who has a club-foot, don't let him know you ever saw it. If there is a poor boy with ragged clothes, don't talk about rags in his hearing. If there is a lame boy, give him a part in the game that will not require running. If there is a hungry one, give him part of your lunch. If there is a bright one, be not envious of him; for if one boy is proud of his talents and another is envious of them there are two great wrongs and no increase of talent. If a boy has injured you, forgive him; all the school will know that it is much better to forgive than to have a quarrel.—Horace Mann.

LARKS WITH SOAP-BUBBLES

Soap-bubble fun has no particular season. The beautiful fairy globes that float about so airily, changing from gold to purple and from primrose to crimson, are just as entertaining in the days of Jack Frost as they are in summer-time, or vice versa. They are a never-ending delight, and the grown-up man or woman must indeed be old and embittered with the world not to enjoy a "bubble party."

There is a deal in knowing just how to make the suds. A weak suds will create bubbles that grow to only moderate size and then explode in a spray of soapy water. Suds that is thick will be even worse, since a large drop of the strong solution will hang from the bubble, the weight of which will cause the wonderful little sphere to crash and disappear.

The best suds is made by melting a small piece of soap, straining the mixture, and adding enough warm water to dilute to the proper consistency. Suds that stands for a day or two is usually better than that freshly made. Foamy soap-water is not successful.

You have probably noticed that when bubbles fall upon soft rugs or a fuzzy, woolly blanket they bounce lightly, and do not break at once. A bubble-bat can be made by twisting wire the shape of a tennis-racket and weaving worsted across. This is great fun. The bubble is dislodged from the pipe or tube by a quick upward movement. As it floats in the air a bat catches it, tossing it up again and again. It can also be made to stand on the edge or handle of the bat.

Did you ever see a bubble walk a tight rope? It can be made to do this trick like a trained elephant. A piece of worsted is held in a slanting position. A bubble is blown, whisked away from the pipe, and sent floating down the tight rope. It will dance and bounce, wafting friskily from the upper end of the worsted down to the lower end, where it will make a nice flying leap to the floor.

Another interesting way of entertaining with soap-bubbles is to cut out a circular disk of common writing-paper about the size of a half-dollar. Make two pin-holes in it, and hang it up by a thread. By keeping the disk moist the bubbles will "take hold" readily, and may be suspended in midair. After a little practice, you can hitch bubbles to each other, the first one being attached to the disk, and you will have the prettiest little chain of bubbles you ever clapped eyes upon.

Try some of these tricks with bubbles, and see how you like them.—The Epworth Herald.

Sick Made Well Weak Made Strong

Marvelous Elixir of Life Discovered by Famous Doctor-Scientist that Cures Every Known Ailment

Wonderful Cures Are Effected That Seem Like Miracles Performed—The Secret of Long Life of Olden Times Revived

The Remedy is Free to All Who Send Name and Address

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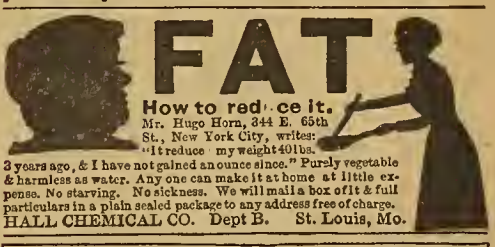
DR. JAMES WILLIAM KIDD

himself, produced as a result of the years he has spent in searching for this precious life-giving boon, to cure any and every disease that is known to the human body. There is no doubt of the doctor's earnestness in making his claim, and the remarkable cures that he is daily effecting seem to bear him out very strongly. His theory which he advances is one of reason and based on sound experience in a medical practice of many years. It costs nothing to try his remarkable "Elixir of Life," as he calls it, for he sends it free to any one who is a sufferer, in sufficient quantities to convince of its ability to cure, so there is absolutely no risk to run. Some of the cures cited are very remarkable, and but for reliable witnesses would hardly be credited. The lame have thrown away crutches and walked about after two or three trials of the remedy. The sick, given up by home doctors, have been restored to their families and friends in perfect health. Rheumatism, neuralgia, stomach, heart, liver, kidney, blood and skin diseases and bladder troubles disappear as by magic. Headaches, backaches, nervousness, fevers, consumption, coughs, colds, asthma, catarrh, bronchitis and all affections of the throat, lungs or any vital organs are easily overcome in a space of time that is simply marvelous.

Partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, dropsy, gout, scrofula and piles are quickly and permanently removed. It purifies the entire system, blood and tissues, restores normal nerve power, circulation, and a state of perfect health is produced at once. To the doctor all systems are alike and equally affected by this great "Elixir of Life." Send for the remedy to-day. It is free to every sufferer. State what you want to be cured of, and the sure remedy for it will be sent you free by return mail.



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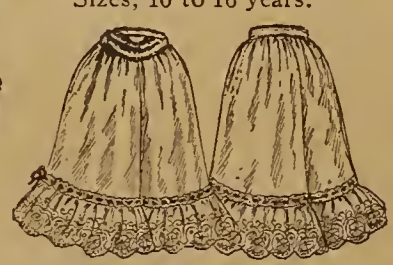
No. 4287.—HOME GOWN. 11 cents. Sizes, 32 to 42 inches bust.

No. 4278.—MISSES' BLOUSE OR SHIRT WAIST. 10 cents. Sizes, 10 to 16 years.



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The Family Physician

By ROBERT B. HOUSE, M.D.

CURIOSITY EXTRAORDINARY

Among many other remarkable things Montana will send to the world's fair is the tallest man in America. Edward Beaupre, aged twenty-one, is seven feet ten and one half inches in height, and weighs three hundred and sixty-seven pounds. He sleeps on the floor in hotels, because no bed is large enough to hold him. Beaupre is well developed generally.—The Sanitarian.

DIGESTIVE VALUE OF FOODS

The following are extracts from a bulletin just given out by the State Agricultural Department of Minnesota:

"The opinion entertained by a great many people that whole-wheat and graham bread is more nutritious than that made from standard patent flour—the flour used in every-day baking—is erroneous. When milk was used as a ration with bread, butter, beans, eggs and potatoes all the protein of the milk was digested, and in addition nearly five per cent more of the protein of the other foods with which it was combined was digested than when the milk was omitted. The highest degree of digestibility was secured in a mixed ration. Experiments made with butter showed that it has a high degree of digestibility, ninety-eight per cent of it being available to the body. Cheese should be used in the diet regularly and in small quantities, rather than at irregular intervals and in large quantities, as is frequently the case. Cheese ordinarily is one of the cheapest and most nutritious foods that can be procured. It is possible to secure a larger amount of digestible nutrients and available energy from cheese costing fifteen cents a pound than from meat costing ten cents a pound. Oatmeal, like cheese and beans, is slow of digestion, requiring much intestinal work for the digestive process; but if well prepared and thoroughly cooked, it is a suitable food for persons of all habits.

ACTION OF GRAPE-JUICE ON THE ORGANISMS

The grape is composed of various constituents, which give it its value in the so-called grape cure—water, grape-sugar, cream of tartar, tartaric and malic acids, albuminoids, various minerals, as potassium salts, lime, magnesia, the oxids of iron and manganese, a little silica and alumina, also certain acids, phosphoric, sulphuric and nitric. There are traces of chlorids and a small quantity of soda and phosphates. The seeds contain tannin. Grape-juice, from its constituents, is a veritable mineral water. In taking the grape-juice cure the quantity at first taken is small, and gradually increased, the length of the time of treatment being from three to six weeks.

Walking and exercise in the open air assist very much in bringing about good results during the time of this cure. The general health is improved, the appetite is increased, and the digestive functions are greatly improved.

The patient usually puts on flesh. The cure is especially indicated in affections of the digestive organs, visceral congestions, ascites, jaundice, in cases of hepatic calculi, diarrhea, habitual constipation, in certain skin troubles, and in neurasthenia. Pulmonary tuberculosis is benefited by this treatment, but the intestines must be in good condition. It seems contraindicated only in persons who are too fat, or who have a tendency to become so, and during the period of menstruation. —Gazette Hebdomadarie de Medecine et de Chirurgie for May 22, 1902.

The Family Lawyer

By JUDGE WM. M. ROCKEL

Legal inquiries of general interest from our regular subscribers will be answered in this department free of charge. Querists desiring an immediate answer by mail should remit one dollar, addressed "Law Department," this office.

Right of Railroad Company to Cross Premises.—L. G., Wisconsin, wants to know "if a railroad company has a right to cross a United States homestead." I understand from the above that the inquirer has complied with the laws of the United States with reference to obtaining title thereto. The railroad company would have no right to cross such land without paying therefor, and if they have built their railroad across such land without making compensation therefor the laws of your state provide a remedy.

Inheritance.—A Missourian wants to know: "What is the law of Missouri where a man dies leaving no will and there are no children? Can a wife claim all his property, both real and personal, where they have earned it together? If not, how is the property apportioned, his parents and some brothers and sisters living?" It seems that if there be brothers and sisters or father or mother that the property would go to them. If none such, then the wife would get all the property. In all cases she has a life estate in one third. Better consult local statutes.

Payment on Lost Note.—C. R. H., Kansas, asks: "If a person loans money on a mortgage-note, and loses the note, it being recorded with the mortgage, can he collect it when due, and how? Can he collect it at once, the provision being made in the note that the person may close at any time if he feels unsecured?" Yes, the note can be collected, and it could be collected at any time as it provides. It is probable that there would have to be some reasonably good ground for the holder feeling "unsecured." The court would require the holder of the note to give indemnity to the maker, so that no one else could make him liable therefor.

Inheritance.—A. R., Michigan, asks: "I would like to inquire who inherits land if a wife dies having land deeded to her by the husband's father, both having brothers living, but no children. Is the deed good if not recorded until after the death of the wife?" The general provisions of your state are that if there are no children one half of the property would go to the husband, and the other half would go to the father and mother of the wife. Better consult the statutes of your state for a more complete answer. The deed would be good as between the parties, although it was not recorded until after the death of the wife, provided it was delivered during her lifetime.

Inheritance.—A. E. S., New York, asks: "If a woman in New York State marries a widower with one child, and he dies without leaving a will, how will his property be divided according to law? If the woman should die before her husband, would the personal and real estate which she inherited from her father, and which has always been kept in her name, go to the husband, or would her brothers and sisters hold it?" First, the widow would be entitled to dower—that is, a life estate in one third of all the real property which her husband owned. She would also get one third of the personal property. Second, the husband would inherit her personal property in the same manner that she would inherit his, and he would have a life estate in all her real estate. After the husband's death the real estate would go to her heirs; the personal property he would get absolutely.

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We Will Give $100.00 in Cash to the person who suggests the most appropriate name for our beautiful new picture, illustrated on this page. Any one ordering one of the pictures together with a year's subscription to the Farm and Fireside will be allowed to suggest one name. See offers below.

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The illustration here can give but a meager idea of the charming beauty of the picture. It must be seen to be appreciated. It is fresh from the artist's brush, and never before offered to the public, so that the FARM AND FIRESIDE readers have the first opportunity to secure a copy.

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The colors and tints, the lights and shadows that the artist uses in his make-up of the sky and the clouds and the distant hills, the vale and the stream and the meadow; the rosy-cheeked, smiling, beautiful young girl, dressed in pink, and her pet, create one of the most striking and exquisite color pictures of its kind that we have ever seen. The artist has employed no less than ten of the most delicate and beautiful colors and gold in his creation of this charming work of art.

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2d You can accept any offer in our paper which includes a year's subscription to the FARM AND FIRESIDE, and add 25 cents extra for one of these pictures, and be entitled to suggest one name for this exquisite and charming new picture.

3d For $1.00 we will send three yearly subscriptions to the FARM AND FIRESIDE (regular clubbing rate is 35c. each) and three pictures, and you will be entitled to suggest three different names for the picture. The papers and pictures can go to different addresses.

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Farm Selections

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Keystone Driller Co., Beaver Falls, Pa. Illustrated catalogue of well-drilling machinery.

The Stover Manufacturing Company, Freeport, Ill. Handsome catalogue of the Sampson windmill.

E. W. LaBeaume, St. Louis, Mo. Booklet on growing fruits and vegetables along the Cotton Belt Route.

F. G. Mogler & Co., St. Paul, Minn. Third annual catalogue of the Defender incubators and brooders.

The Glucose Refining Company, Chicago, Ill. Booklet on feeding farm-animals for best results.

S. L. Allen & Co., Philadelphia, Pa. Illustrated catalogue of the celebrated Planet, Jr., farm and garden tools.

Duane H. Nash, Millington, N. J. Illustrated catalogue of the Acme pulverizing-harrow, clod-crusher and leveler.

The Davison Harrow Company, Utica, N. Y. Illustrated catalogue of the Davison harrows, Eureka mower, corn-planters, potato-planters, weeders, plows, cultivators, etc.

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE MAKING OF A COUNTRY HOME. By J. P. Mowbray. 12mo. Cloth, $1.50. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.

BEES IN COLORADO. Illustrated booklet on the bee industry in Colorado. Price ten cents. D. W. Working, Denver, Col.

ON THE FRONTIER WITH ST. CLAIR. The story of the early settlement of the Ohio country, by Charles S. Wood. Illustrated. 343 pages, 12mo. Cloth, $1.50. Published by the W. A. Wilde Company, Boston, Mass.

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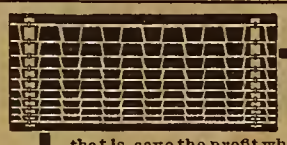

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